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IZVESTIYA SEES SALT-II AS A 'VICTORY FOR REASON'

LD141015 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[S. Kondrashov article under "Political Observer's Commentary" rubric: "Long-Awaited News"]

[Text] Really long-awaited news about an event of tremendous importance. This is how the announcement of the coming Soviet-American summit in Vienna (scheduled for approximately 15-18 June) can be described. The two countries are on the threshold of signing a new strategic offensive arms limitation treaty. The SALT-II negotiations marathon, which has continued for more than 6 years, has finally entered the home stretch.

It has been a hard race, in which three American administrations have taken part, and there is perhaps no need now to enumerate all the obstacles which have arisen on the path to the goal--much has been written and will yet be written about that. But it is worth remembering that these obstacles were not erected by the Soviet side; it is worth stressing that they were overcome, nevertheless, in the name of the great goal of limiting and controlling the nuclear arms race. The SALT-II treaty which L.I. Brezhnev and J. Carter will confirm [utverdyat] and sign in Vienna represents a victory for patience and endurance, a victory for reason and for the two powers' recognition of the cardinal fact of our time, that there really is no sensible alternative to detente.

Over their long years in progress the SALT-II talks have been the main barometer indicating the climate of Soviet-American relations. The talks themselves were a main element in those relations. The prospects for international detente were judged mainly on how close the talks were to completion. This barometer is now showing an improvement in the climate. It is no accident that the news about the Vienna meeting is being welcomed throughout the world.

Great significance will attach to the treaty itself, on which work is now being completed. Based on the principle of equality and identical security for the two sides, it will create a definite barrier in the way of the further accumulation of the most destructive and expensive types of weapons. This will be advantageous both to the Soviet Union and to the United States.

Important as the SALT-II treaty itself is, however, it is not the only element in the new impetus which will be given to detente and the cause of improving Soviet-American relations. When the treaty comes into force, work will begin on a SALT-II agreement. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in his 2 March 1979 speech to voters, the SALT-III agreement "must go even further, put a brake on the creation of new types of weapons and provide not just for limitation of the growth of arms but, this time, for the reduction of armaments by both sides."

There is hope, too, of activation of other talks connected with limiting the arms race and resolving the task of disarmament. And finally, by creating a more favorable climate, the SALT-II treaty could help resolve other questions in Soviet-American relations and in international life. It is reported that the coming Vienna meeting will involve discussion of questions of mutual interest to the USSR and the United States.

These, briefly and generally, are the prospects opened up by an announcement long awaited throughout the world. A similar appraisal prevails in the U.S. administration. "The treaty not only marks the end of one set of negotiations but opens the way to the start of further talks," U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance says. "When this treaty is ratified by the Senate, it will lay the foundation for new steps in the arms reduction sphere at the SALT-III talks."

Even at this present encouraging moment, however, we cannot fail to refer to one circumstance which casts a shadow on the achievement. The treaty has been practically agreed and is close to signing between the two governments, but the question of its ratification in the U.S. Senate, where a two-thirds vote in favor is required for the treaty's approval, is by no means clear. Capitol Hill faces a highly dramatic battle--one of the major battles in American history. The supporters and the enemies of the treaty, of international detente and of the improvement of Soviet-American relations will be crossing swords. It is no secret that White House deference to Capitol Hill made the marathon cited above even longer. But even now, in the home stretch, the treaty's enemies are marshalling all their forces. Those forces include direct agents of the military-industrial complex, inveterate anti-Soviets, lobbyists of various hues, political speculators and so forth. Senators who have not yet defined their attitude to the treaty are being subjected to the most intense pressure.

The U.S. Senate faces a test of political responsibility and maturity. There really is no sensible alternative to detente, since the alternative consisting in continuing and hardening the arms race is senseless, irresponsible and highly dangerous, no matter what attempts are made to mask the fact by presenting this attitude as concern about U.S. "security" and about "guarantees for monitoring" the treaty.

Most Americans realize that the SALT-II opponents' effective program is for more armaments and less security. They reject this program, although we must add the reservation that this majority arithmetic makes no impact on the enemies of detente representing influential conservative circles. In an appeal for the ratification of the forthcoming treaty President Carter stressed: "Senate refusal to ratify the SALT-II treaty would be a crushing blow to world peace, and other countries would begin to see us not as a peace-loving country but as instigators of war."

Those are true words, which ought to be heeded on Capitol Hill.

CARTER DISCUSSES SALT PACT IN MEETING WITH EDITORS

LD131414 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Washington, May 13, TASS--In an interview for non-Washington editors and radio news directors President James Carter centered attention on the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty.

Our nation is faced with several very important international issues and also very important domestic issues, he said. I would say the most important of all is now the consummation, the signing and the ratification of a SALT agreement. Perhaps more important than anything I will address while I am President and perhaps the most important vote that the incumbent members of the Senate will ever cast is concerning the ratification of SALT-II.

"It is a fair treaty, enforceable treaty, verifiable treaty, and rejection of this treaty would have a devastating, adverse effect on our nation's relationships with the Soviet Union, on our ability to deal effectively with our allies, with uncommitted nations and with the control of nuclear weaponry or explosives in the future throughout the world," the President went on.

Answering a question, the President said: We have negotiated this SALT treaty under three presidents, and it has been negotiated in the most extreme specificity, much greater specific, detailed negotiations than ever existed with a limited test ban or SALT-I or the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

There has been a hard negotiation, a tough negotiation on both sides and the Soviets, I think, as we, have been not only tough but fair.

I think, the President went on, the treaty is to our great advantage and also to the Soviets' great advantage. I need not go into all the details of SALT-II, but I think that it is, at the least, very fair, well balanced, stable, verifiable, adequate, and a move in the right direction. It leads to SALT-III which will be even better.

Rejection of the treaty, however, will have the most devastating consequences to our country and I think to world peace. It will sever, to a substantial degree the workable relationship between ourselves and the Soviets. It will shake the confidence of our own NATO allies in our ability to get along reasonably well with the Soviets.

...It would make it almost impossible for us to pursue successfully the control of nuclear weapon development in countries who have the technical ability to produce nuclear weapons but have refrained from doing so because they saw an overall worldwide restraint.

If the Soviets should sign SALT-II and, in effect, ratify, which is, I think, inevitable, and if we should sign it and then reject it, James Carter observed, we would be put in the role of a warmonger who refused even to participate in an equitable restraint on the most destructive weapons on earth. ...This is something "I would hate to have to face as a President," James Carter emphasized.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON SALT-II, CARTER-BREZHNEV TALKS

LD120252 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] In commentary that follows, news analyst Vladislav Kozyakov discusses the just-released report about a coming meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and Jimmy Carter and the signing of a SALT-II treaty. This is what he writes:

However difficult and complex the path has been towards a new agreement to limit strategic armaments, it has been covered now by joint efforts of the Soviet Union and the United States. This is strong proof agreements on disarmament are possible, given our mutual desire to achieve decisions acceptable to both sides with due account for the lawful interests of one another and for the principles of equality and equal security of the sides. Then even the most delicate problems of relations between countries on which the destinies of the world peace depend can be agreed upon.

Some American politicians are now saying the treaty could be better in their opinion. But Soviet people can say the same thing, too. In our opinon not everything in the treaty fully meets our wishes. However, the main thing is that reasonable compromise has been reached with due consideration for the interests of both sides. The importance of SALT-II is that it constitutes the process of relaxation of tensions and limiting arms, a process that started a few years ago on Soviet initiative. In 1972, the SALT-I treaty was signed between the Soviet Union and the United States and it is now followed by SALT-II.

When this treaty goes into force, SALT-III talks will start, which will deal not only with limiting but also with reducing arms. The purpose of SALT-III will be to put up barriers towards the development of new kinds of weapons.

Without doubt the signing and coming into force of the SALT-II treaty will make it possible to revive talks also on a number of other aspects of the problem. As is known, talks have been going on for a long time now on such questions as a full ban on nuclear weapons tests and on limiting trade in conventional arms. In Vienna, talks are continuing about reducing armaments and armed forces in central Europe. Apart from that, the United States and a number of other countries have before them tens of concrete proposals on disarmament submitted by the Soviet Union and its allies in the Warsaw Treaty Organization. The socialist countries have repeatedly declared they are ready, under a two-way agreement with NATO countries, to limit or to totally renounce any kind of weapons.

So the importance of the completion of the work on SALT-II is not only in the stipulations fixed down in the new treaty but also in the fact that the treaty, as we hope, will make it possible to successfully solve many other problems of stopping the arms race.

As Leonid Brezhnev declared in a recent speech in Moscow, the most pressing, the most burning issue for mankind now is to stop the arms race and avert the threat of a world nuclear war. Just as the other socialist countries, the Soviet Union does not spare efforts in the struggle to reach these objectives, stressed President Brezhnev.

Reports about the completion of work on the SALT-II treaty also show there is a growing realization in the United States of how important it is to take measures to stop the arms race. At least towards the SALT-II agreement, the United States administration has shown a sensible, realistic approach. Thanks to it, mutually acceptable understanding became possible. According to public opinion polls, most Americans approve the approach.

President Carter believes the SALT-II agreement will play a positive role in limiting the arms race and reducing the danger of a nuclear war as well as in a general development of Soviet-American relations. This view is shared by many prominent leaders in the United States who are speaking on the issue during the current sharp political struggle about the new agreement. For example, Senator Edward Kennedy has hailed the new agreement and promised to do everything in his power to ensure the earliest possible ratification of the treaty. The Senate, he said, should ratify the treaty because it is an indispensable step toward peace that history now offered us and that we cannot afford to miss.

Just as President Carter, many political leaders in the United States speak for a further development of Soviet-American relations now when the two countries have reached agreement on SALT-II. Soviet people share this opinion. Speaking in March in Moscow about an early meeting with President Carter even then and about the signing of the SALT-II treaty, Leonid Brezhnev said this: We expect to also discuss a number of questions of how to further develop Soviet-American relations, to further reduce tensions and to promote world peace.

GLAZUNOV COMMENTS ON EFFORTS WHICH LED TO SALT-II

LD120120 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] It has been officially announced that the Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, and the American President, James Carter, are to meet in mid-June to sign a treaty on limiting strategic offensive weapons. Radio Moscow commentator Viktor Glazunov writes:

The Soviet-American SALT talks have their history. It will be recalled that as far back as 7 years ago, in May 1972, an agreement was signed between the Soviet Union and the United States on certain measures aimed at limiting strategic offensive weapons. This was a temporary agreement, designated for 5 years and it covered only some kinds of strategic offensive arms. Taking into account the temporary and restricted nature of the agreement, known under the shortened name of SALT-I, the sides already then agreed to continue the talks to draw up a new agreement or treaty, a broader one, covering a wider range of aspects. In November 1974 the well-known meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and then American President Gerald Ford took place in Vladivostok and all the most important provisions of a new SALT-II treaty were worked out.

It seemed as if a treaty would soon be signed. However, the work was brought to a standstill by the American side. And with the coming to power of the new, Carter, administration, the United States attempted to revise the Vladivostok agreement in its favor. Much effort and time were needed for the present American administration to become (?content) that a treaty on the further limitation of strategic armaments was possible only on the basis of equality and the equal security.

Now the drawing up of the treaty is being completed. For the first time an identical level of strategic weapons has been agreed between the Soviet Union and the United States. Limitations, both quantitative and qualitative, have been envisaged. Much is being written and said about the significance of SALT-II. Above all, its key role is noted in resolving the most pressing task: to stop the arms race and to prevent the danger of world rocket and nuclear war.

Like after the first SALT agreement, when talks began on a second SALT treaty, after the SALT-II treaty comes into effect work will begin on a third SALT treaty, which should go still further, should curb the development of new kinds of weapons, should envisage not only the limitation of the growth of armaments but also their reduction. The success with SALT-II will certainly have a favorable impact on other talks linked with an end to the arms race and achieving disarmament. In short, it is difficult to overestimate the significance of the new Soviet-American treaty on limiting strategic offensive weapons. Success here will be a gain not only for the Soviet Union and the United States; everybody stands to gain from it.

FAVORABLE WORLDWIDE RESPONSES TO SALT-II CITED

LD121559 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--Prominent political and state figures, representatives of public opinion, the press of many countries have received with a feeling of profound satisfaction the news about the achievement by the USSR and the USA of agreement in principle on the basic provisions of a new agreement to limit strategic offensive weapons and to hold a Soviet-American summit meeting in Vienna.

U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale said that the provisions of the SALT-II agreement accord with the interests of security of the United States, are verifiable and are highly important for limiting the nuclear arsenals.

He stressed that the refusal of U.S. Senate to ratify the treaty would be a terrible catastrophe for international stability.

The new Soviet-American agreement on strengthening control over strategic armaments will serve as a reliable means of consolidating peace. An alternative to this can only be intensification of the mad arms race and a nuclear war, says a statement released by the U.S. Peace Council, a mass public organization. The council has launched an appeal for a maximum of efforts to ensure ratification of the SALT-II agreement by U.S. Senate.

Welcoming the achievement of the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on limiting strategic weapons, the U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim expressed hope that the conclusion of the SALT-II agreement between the two countries will contribute to working out a more effective approach to the problem of disarmament as a whole and nuclear disarmament in particular.

Austria's Federal Chancellor Bruno Kreisky welcomed the decision of J. Carter and L. Brezhnev to come to Vienna to sign the agreement limiting the strategic offensive weapons. He said that Austrians were glad that such a decision was taken, promising to do everything possible to create conditions conducive to a successful holding of the meeting.

Expressing profound satisfaction over the forthcoming meeting, Italy's Chairman of the Council of Ministers G. Andreotti stressed that this was a concrete way of translating into reality the general desire to see a resumption of the direct and deeper dialogue between Washington and Moscow, which, in the view of the Italians, constitutes an effective and positive contribution to detente and peace in the world.

The entire world public approves the Soviet-American agreements reached, writes the Czechoslovak RUDE PRAVO. Limitation of strategic weapons means a reduction in the danger of a nuclear conflict, contributes to peace and international security and so is of concern not only to the Soviet Union and the United States but to all countries regardless of their size or their being nuclear or non-nuclear states.

According to Polish TRYBUNA LUDU the limitation of the strategic offensive weapons creates new prerequisites to reduce the risk of a nuclear war, expands the sphere of international cooperation.

The French LE FIGARO stresses that the signing of the SALT-II agreement will provide an appreciable impetus to the development of Soviet-American relations in the coming years. In the view of the British DAILY TELEGRAPH the forthcoming Vienna summit meeting may mark the beginning of a new round of negotiations on limiting strategic weapons.

The Japanese newspaper ASAHI points out that the achievement between the USSR and the USA of an agreement in principle on limiting strategic weapons and holding in the near future a bilateral summit meeting is a most welcome development. Mankind has no task more important than reducing the danger of a nuclear war.

Italian, French Leaders Praise

LD131025 Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Rome, May 13, TASS--Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Italy Giulio Andreotti and Prime Minister of France Raymond Barre have positively appraised the completion of the SALT-II negotiations between the USSR and the United States and the fact that General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and U.S. President James Carter are to meet in Vienna to sign the treaty.

The two heads of government had a meeting yesterday in Bardonecchia, near Turin. They also considered questions of oil deliveries and the state of economy of West European states in connection with a conference of leaders of seven major countries of the world on economic matters, scheduled to be held in Tokyo late in June.

Reactions of Senators Jackson, Dole

LD120154 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[From the PRAVDA review on reaction in the United States of SALT-II]

[Text] Report from Washington: The American public has received with great interest the news that agreement has been reached between the United States and the USSR on the main points of a new agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. Already in the first hours after the announcement that agreement in principle has been reached between the USSR and the U.S. on SALT-II, some opponents of the agreement have made themselves heard, including Senator Jackson.

At the same time, the Washington STAR quotes Senator Dole of Kansas, who predicts that if the Republican Party makes SALT-II a party issue, it will certainly be defeated in the 1980 presidential elections since in the eyes of the American people and of the wide masses of the electors it will be seen as the party of war. Dole warned his colleagues of the need to be extremely careful on the question of SALT-II, because the majority of the American people favors an agreement with the Soviet Union.

Church, Harrimann, Dellums Comment

LD111930 Moscow TASS in English 1910 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Washington, May 11, TASS--The conclusion of a new Soviet-American SALT agreement will be an important landmark on the road to further detente and curb the arms race, which is in the national interests of the two countries. This is the opinion of sensible politicians and public figures in the USA.

Speaking at the White House U.S. President James Carter spoke of the important of the SALT-II agreement for the United States, for the development of American-Soviet relations. This is a fair treaty, he said. It gives no advantages to any of the sides. Failure by the Senate to ratify the SALT-II agreement would deal a crushing blow at universal peace, while other countries would regard the U.S. not as a peaceable country, but as a warmonger, the President stressed.

The SALT-II Soviet-American agreement will put a brake on the arms race, believes the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Frank Church. He resolutely warned the senators against rejecting the SALT-II agreement when it goes to the Senate for ratification. Such a decision would be a calamity.

In the view of the noted public figure and politician Averell Harrimann favourable opportunities are now opening before the two countries for stopping the mad arms race and ensuring peace and security for the peoples, for a steep reduction of the nuclear weapons stockpiled in the world.

Support of an early conclusion of the SALT-II agreement came from Representative R. Dellums. His recent trip to the Soviet Union, he said, convinced him that the Soviet people and the Soviet Government take peace and an end to the arms race seriously, just as the strengthening of the constructive spirit of detente. The congressman urged the U.S. Government to do everything necessary for the ratification of the SALT-II agreement.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD131630 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 13 May 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with moderator Yevgeney Viktorovich Kachanov, All Union Radio commentator; and Eduard Vasiliyevich Kovalev and Nikolay Petrovich Khokhlov--not further identified]

[Text] [Kachanov] Good day comrades. Undoubtedly the most important international news this week has been the report that in accordance with an agreement that has been reached, a meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and U.S. President James Carter, will take place tentatively on 15-18 June in Vienna.

SALT-II, Brezhnev-Carter Meeting

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and James Carter will affirm and sign the treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms, on which work is now being completed. And they will discuss other issues of mutual interest. I shall recall that several days ago U.S. Secretary of State Vance gave a press conference at which he made a statement about the reaching of an understanding in principle on the main issues of the substance of the talks on the strategic arms limitation. Vance said that now it was incumbent upon the delegations in Geneva to embody in the text of the agreement the accords that had been reached and to complete agreement on some other secondary issues.

Commenting on the accords that have been reached, the secretary of state said that the Soviet Union and the United States were now on the threshold of signing a new SALT agreement, which signified a practical limitation on the nulcear arms race. One must say that the imminent prospect of a conclusion of a new Soviet-U.S. agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms has evoked exceptionally great interest and satisfaction in many countries.

Here for example is a cable from London: According to a report from the press association agency, a spokesman for the British Foreign Office made a statement which, in part, said: We are glad that the progress achieved in the SALT-II talks is significant enough to allow the holding of the long-awaited summit-level meeting. We welcome the settlement of some of the most important issues, the spokesman stressed.

A step towards disarmament--such was the title of an article in the Paris paper L'HUMANITE devoted to the SALT-II agreement. If this agreement and the documents which supplement it come into force, then it will be possible to speak of an important step towards disarmament. The completion of the working-out of a SALT-II agreement will have a beneficial effect on the creation of an atmosphere of the greatest trust between the East and the West and will aid other talks on disarmament, which, the paper claims, are making no headway in Vienna, and at the Disarmament Committee in Geneva. In these new conditions it will be possible to examine a more active participation for the whole international community in the efforts to prevent war and reduce military budgets.

Such a thought, by the way, is stressed in the commentary of the West German newspaper WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU, entitled: "SALT-II: A Signal for Vienna". The newspaper writes: The United States and the Soviet Union intend to sign in June the second agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. It covers missiles and their strategic means of delivery. The agreement limits their number, range and deployment. After the first agreement between the USSR and the United States it is an important step forward. No less important is the fact that Washington and Moscow have been able to reach a common viewpoint.

The forthcoming meeting between James Carter and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev testifies above all to the readiness of the world powers to pursue the path of talks and now allow the policies of detente to be undermined. Between the SALT-II agreement and the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe there exists an undoubted link. The summit level meeting between Carter and Brezhrev for the signing of the SALT-II agreement can become a positive signal for the talks in Vienna.

But in the American press in the past few days the question mainly under discussions is not the signing of the Soviet-U.S. agreement; it seems no one has doubts about this. The matter at hand is the possibility of the ensuing ratification of this document by the Senate. After all, it is no secret to anyone that in recent times in the United States the opponents of detente have been becoming more active headed by the not unknown Senator Jackson, who is, as are those who think likewise, closely linked with the military-industrial complex. These apologists for the cold war are thinking up various pretexts and objections to prevent the treaty on SALT-II coming into force. Especially popular among them now is the thesis that, due to the loss of the electronic surveillance stations in Iran, the United States has been deprived of the possibility of monitoring the fulfilment of the agreement by the Soviet Union.

But, after all, highly responsible officials in the Washington administration have frequently said that those national means which they have at their disposal are quite sufficient for such monitoring. I shall add here that since the coming into force of the SALT-II treaty, the Soviet Union has never given reason for its sincerity to be doubted.

British Elections, New Government Policies

This week in Britain the formation has been completed of the government by the Conservatives, who were victorious at the recent parliamentary elections. About the situation which has now taken shape in this country, I shall ask Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev to speak in more detail.

[Kovalev] Yes, in Britain the short but highly intensive election campaign is now over. And this time once more the traditional British ironic formula has turned out to be true. It goes: The opposition does not win the elections, the government loses them. And so to explain the reason for the Conservative victory one has consequently to analyze the factors which led to the Labor Party's defeat. We shall note that the main problems which arose during the election campaign were, of course, social-economic problems. Industrial production, the former pride of the British, is making no headway. Inflation continues to grow. The army of the unemployed has reached a record level for the postwar period--1.5 million people. Millions of ordinary Britons have become worse off. Their reaction to the bitter fruits of labor rule was made known firstly with the mass strike movements last winter and then on 3 May during the voting. Neither the labor leadership nor the Conservative leaders, however, in their pre-election programs proposed any constructive solutions for the economic difficulties and problems which the country is experiencing. Instead, both parties were not sparing in their contradictory promises concerning future prosperity.

Here the Conservatives appealed to that part of the electorate with a low political consciousness, playing on their proprietary feelings or, rather, even on their property instincts. To curb the trade unions, to strengthen law and order, broad freedom for private business--such are the main slogans with which the Thatcher party went to the polls. The unrestrained increase in prices, the growth of unemployment, the general lowering in the standard of living of ordinary Britons, all of this was skilfully used by the opposition party to undermine the authority of the Labor Party.

The Conservatives played on the feelings of fear of the so-called middle class, frightened by the unprecedented scale of strikes to which the trade unions were forced to resort since they did not accept the policies of a voluntary tightening of belts.

The Western press has also unanimously characterized the Conservative victory at the British elections as the coming to power of representatives of big business. Everyone is of course noting that for the first time in Britain, and also in West Europe, the post of prime minister is occupied by a woman--the iron lady, as Mrs Thatcher has been styled by certain Western journalists. I would like briefly to acquaint radio listeners with the head of the new British Government. Mrs Thatcher is 53 years old, married and a mother of two children. By education she is a chemical engineer, but she has been in politics now for 20 years. In 1959 she was elected to Parliament for the Conservative Party. Fifteen years later in 1974 she at last became the leader of the party and so now she is the British prime minister. The government, as you said, has already been formed. Contrary to the expectations of the right wing of the Conservative Party, and even, let us say, counter to the extremely conservative ideals of Mrs Thatcherherself, moderate figures nonetheless predominate in the composition of her government. Yet another original feature: Mrs Thatcher herself is the only woman in the new cabinet. One must also realize that the iron lady herself originates from the middle class. She is the daughter of an unwealthy merchant from Lincolnshire, in the midlands, the central part of Britain.

At the same time, the male ministers surrounding her in the government are all, truth to tell, from the higher aristocratic circle of Britain. They were educated at the best British educational establishments: at Eton and Harrow, Oxford and Cambridge, and some at the privileged military academy of Sandhurst. Fortune has no need to seek a special opportunity to smile upon these gentlemen in the course oftheir lives, having met them already in the cradle--according to the British press. Today, these men are the presidents or directors of large British, or even transnational, companies. Thus, questions of employment will be the province of James Prior, boss [patron] of the giant firm United Biscuits. A former officer in the Grenadier Guards, Lord Carrington, who is a Sandhurst graduate, and an hereditary member of the House of Lords, has been appointed foreign minister. A prominent British industrialist, Keith Joseph, becomes minister for industry. No wonder that one British commentator has called Thatcher's cabinet a government of gentlemen of good aristocratic lineage.

And yet the British FINANCIAL TIMES, assessing the composition of the new government, has written--and I quote--that the Tory cabinet reflects, to a much greater extent than had been expected, the views of the left wing and center of the Conservative Party. The explanation is, possibly, as follows: Consider how feasible are the radical pledges taken by the Conservatives in their election manifesto, for example, the curbing of the trade unions--let us leave that terminology on the conscience of its Conservative authors--the restriction of colored immigration in Britain; denationalization of a number of important industries; active participation in NATO; an increase in military spending, and so on and so forth. Consider how far these radical pledges can be carried out. That is the question posed by the author of a commentary in the FINANCIAL TIMES, who answers it like this: Practically all parties which, in their election campaigns, declare their desire for radical changes are forced, when they come to power, to switch to a more conciliatory course. The Thatcher government is hardly likely to be an exception to this rule.

[Kachanov] Eduard Vasilyevich, most commentators and political observers in the West agree that the new British Government will start turning the course of policy to the right, as it has promised to do, but will carry out its mission with extreme caution.

[Kovalev] Yes, that's right. And it's understandable. On the domestic front, Thatcher faces an acute confrontation with the trade unions, which intend to defend the rights of the British workers. The Paris paper LE MONDE, for example, also asserts that Mrs Thatcher and her friends will be forced to carry out a policy of moderation both abroad and at home, and that will include their relations with the unions. They will also have to find a compromise between their election promises--which were often rather straightforward--and the true demands that being in power will entail. Here is another quotation, if you will bear with me; this time on foreign policy: The Washington POST writes that Thatcher won the mandate of the voters in order to move Britain to the right. Although during the election campaign Thatcher gave the impression that a toughening of British foreign policy was to be expected, it is thought in the West that under the new conservative government, such a change in British foreign policy, will hardly take place immediately. Expounding the main principles of the government's foreign policy program, the new British prime minister declared that its cornerstone is participation in the NATO bloc.

Thatcher has advocated strengthening the military potential of the West European states. Speaking at a dinner for the West German chancellor, Schmidt, who is now visiting London, the British prime minister emphasized that her government intends to maintain and improve the combat capability of Britain's Armed Forces. True, she tried to justify such a course by the need to ward off some allegedly existing military threat to the NATO countries from the East.

Referring to Britain's relations with the European Economic Community, the head of the British cabinet declared that her government would resolutely defend the country's interests in the Common Market, while at the same time settling relations with its Common Market partners which had been somewhat less than favorable under Labor. Well, as they say, we shall see.

As for the policy of the new Conservative government in Africa, it is perhaps not for nothing that the white colonizers in Rhodesia and South Africa were jubilant when they heard the news of the iron lady's victory in the British elections. The white racists in those countries hope that the Thatcher government will be more attentive to their difficulties--in quotes--than the previous Labor government was.

[Khokhlov] Well, you know, the last conclusion of yours prompts me to disagree somewhat with the British papers that you quoted as saying that the new British Government will be more moderate. I think time indicates some corrections. It's not likely to be moderate as regards policy toward, for instance, China. It's not likely to be moderate, either, in relations to certain regions of Africa. And I'm also willing to illustrate my guarded attitude with reference to the situation developing in Rhodesia-Zimbabwe.

Southern Africa

Let me say something, briefly, about this issue. The situation we now see in Zimbabwe, which I will briefly describe, shows, apart from anything else, the true face of Western diplomacy. It reveals the methods of the imperialist powers which, in our day, do not venture openly to defend their colonial interests, but resort to subterfuge and verbal demagogy, through which, sooner or later, the planter and the colonialist become visible just the same.

How many so-called shuttle diplomacy operations have been carried out, during which the representatives of the West have flitted back and forth between the European capitals and the countries of the African Continent? How many speeches have been made that have even included condemnations of racism and apartheid and good wishes to the Africans who are fighting for their rights? They have even given the boss of the Salisbury racists, Ian Smith, a bit of a rough time, while he himself has fallen out with one or two people on the shores of misty Albion.

Now, all that camouflage is a thing of the past. In the political arena in Salisbury there have been changes. The April elections have taken place. An African majority has been formally elected to the Parliament; but what the internal settlement itself boils down to is the typical old colonial system. The point is that the deputies drawn from the ranks of the European industrial and agricultural magnates have [word indistinct], a right to veto, in the voting, all decisions which they themselves consider important; and since, if you like, you can declare any matter, even the most trivial, to be important, it turns out that the supposed African majority will not be able to take any decision, even though all the representatives of the indigenous population have voted for it.

Moreover, the Europeans retain control of the army, the police forces, the courts and the whole administrative system. Let us add that all the industrial enterprises, the mines, nearly all transport and all the best landed estates, are in their hands. That is how the internal settlement of the Rhodesian problem looks in reality. The Smith clique seems to have agreed to the country later being called, not Rhodesia, as the dyed-in-the-wool colonialists had insisted, and not Zimbabwe, as the African patriots prefer to call their homeland, but Rhodesia-Zimbabwe. And that, really, is all.

The prime minister in the new government is to be Bishop Abel Tendekayie Muzorewa, who is a well-known, and--frankly--hopeless collaborationist. He was born in 1925 in the town of Umtali. After attending a Methodist missionary school, he studied in the United States, at the Central Methodist College among other places. He studied theology. On his return to his native country, he began to take part in the youth movement which, incidentally, has never put forward any radical demands concerning the colonial administration. In recent years he on several occasions visited London where, as it turned out, he held secret talks with representatives of the British Government on the future set-up in Rhodesia. It is now no longer a secret on what was agreed in London.

[Kachanov] As is well-known, the frontline states rejected the results of the Rhodesian elections, saying that without the participation of the Patriotic Front there can be no question of the formation of a new government in Salisbury. This is the standpoint being adhered to by the United Nations. As for the Patriotic Front, its leaders have sworn to continue the armed struggle to a victorious conclusion.

[Khokhlov] The elections, despite the farce, have created a more complicated situation for the Zimbabwean patriots. In both Britain and the United States this internal settlement has been seized upon to regard the coming formation of the Salisbury cabinet as a reason for official recognition of the racist rule. Calls are to be heard even now for the lifting of the economic sanctions against the regime. All this may complicate the position in Zimbabwe and postpone the long-awaited victory of the native population in the protracted struggle to establish in the country the rule of the real majority, and not a false majority.

Near East

[Kachanov] Perhaps in our broadcast it is appropriate once again to touch upon the situation in the Near East, which continues to remain one of the hottest spots on the the globe.

[Khokhlov] I should like to begin the discussion on the situation in the Near East with one fairly significant phenomenon. This will concern the tactics and strategy of the Beijing bosses, who have of late been speaking a surprisingly great deal with high-ranking and not very high-ranking representatives of the West. The person being addressed is not of such great importance in itself; for the Chinese leaders it is far more important to be speaking themselves. At the present time they have engaged, so to speak, in enlightening the West. Sermons and unsolicited advice flow like a river. All of this naturally accords with extreme anticommunism and is directed at foiling detente. Since China either does not want itself, or is simply not in a condition, to teach a lesson to or punish those whom it would like to punish, this mission is assigned for example to NATO or to the war departments of other capitalist countries.

Quite recently there was a report from Beijing that certain Chinese leaders had advised the United States to punish and teach a lesson to Cuba, in the way that the Chinese aggressors allegedly, and in their opinion, taught Vietnam a lesson. And although in the final judgement everything has been put the wrong way round,--for in reality China was itself the one punished for its perfidy and the winner was the heroic people of Vietnam--nevertheless the thinking of the Chinese adventurists is totally clear. It boils down to the fact that in each large region of the world today there should be a power in a punishing and a punitive role.

In Asia such a country already exists, namely, present day China. One also exists in the Near East, where this role has for a long time now been performed by the State of Israel. Confirmation of this is the continual raids by the Israeli military on the territory of Lebanon.

[Kachanov] It must be noted that Israel's raids on Lebanon have become more frequent precisely since the signing of the separate deal between Israel and Egypt. This is one of the numerous examples of the fact that the so-called peace treaty has brought fresh complications to the entire situation in the Near East.

[Khokhlov] Yes, it has freed Israel's hands. By all accounts one can expect from Tel Aviv future fresh criminal acts against the Arab peoples as well. One can now say quite definitely that there can be no question of any concessions allegedly given to Egypt. The conclusion that Israel has won from its diplomatic intriguing is confirmed by the whole course of present events in the Near East. It is glaringly obvious, too, that Israel is holding up its head and trying very hard to impose its line even on the United Nations.

Recently the Tel Aviv government informed the secretary general of the international organization that--and I quote--under no circumstances will it bring itself to create a Palestinian state in the Jordan West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In a fairly brazen way Israel said, or rather warned, that it refuses altogether to discuss this matter with anyone at any time. This is the way the people are talking who have just signed what they themselves call a peace treaty.

It is appropriate here too to cite what the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR had to say. For some reason this paper reckons that opposition to the Egyptian-Israeli agreement is being expressed--and I quote the paper's words--mainly by the Soviet Union.

One ought to bring full clarity to this issue: opposition to the deal is being expressed mainly--to use the paper's word--by an absolute majority of the Arab states, and this is evidenced by numerous facts, while the Soviet Union is supporting, as it has in the past, the just struggle of the Arabs for a real and all-round settlement of the Near East crisis. Time has shown and confirmed the far-sighted nature of such a course. Now, many representatives of the West, even, are inclined to the view that the problem of the Near East can be positively resolved only with the participation of all interested sides in peace talks.

It is now already clear that the heavy burden undertaken by Egypt and Israel under well-known direction is beyond their strength. We are witnessing a further demarcation of forces in the Near East. Egypt is now, as before, becoming isolated, only more so. The stake on some of the Arab leaders directly or indirectly supporting As-Sadat has been conclusively beaten.

Further proof of this is that the conference of foreign ministers of Islamic countries refused admission to Egypt's representative. This conference, which took place in the Moroccan town of Fez, proclaimed the present year as Palestine year. Let us remind you that over 40 states took part in this representative conference.

[Kachanov] How many poisonous stings is this treaty fraught with, the Italian L'ESPRESSO magazine asks, having in mind the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty, and noting that the opposing concepts of the Israelis and Egyptians produce more turbulent clashes the closer the sides get to the key problem, which is still enveloped in mist.

[Khokhlov] Well, it is clear what this key problem is. It is the total liberation of the Arab territories seized by Israel, the creation of an independent Palestinian state and the provision of guarantees that peace in this region will no longer be infringed. In the present condition of various meetings between representatives of Egypt and Israel these fundamental issues, on a positive solution of which depends the long-awaited settlement of the Near East conflict, are not being raised.

For the sake of an illusory interstate alliance with Israel, the diplomatic fathers of which were and remain American figures, Egypt embarked on a loss of prestige throughout the entire Arab world, and at one time this prestige was fairly high. The words and actions of a really sovereign Egypt were heeded by all its Arab brothers. Now its contacts with Israel have led to Egypt finding itself more and more in direct economic and military dependence on certain Western countries and on Israel.

In the Pentagon's orchestra it is precisely Israel that is given the solo spot. True, some things come Egypt's way too. Indeed, all this reminds one of the strange competition in the matter of being equipped with modern armaments. In this field, if one avoids building illusions and takes a purely realistic approach, Egypt with its present international position will never outstrip Israel. Moreover, Egypt's economy is in a neglected condition and the country's progress cannot be attained by the aid which has been promised for the deal with Israel and for the betrayal of pan-Arab interests.

[Kachanov] Here, comrades, we come to the end of our broadcast today. Goodbye and all the best to you.

'GLOOMY' ATMOSPHERE AT TRILATERAL COMMISSION SESSION

LD111009 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 May 79 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Yu. Bandura dispatch "Japan: Rehearsal of the Summit Meeting of the 'Big Seven'" under the rubric "From Our Own Correspondents"]

[Text] Tokyo--In the Japanese capital the latest session of the "Trilateral Commission"--a combined Japanese-U.S.-West European nongovernmental organ reflecting moods in the West's "corridors of power" and exerting influence on the policy-making of the governments of the industrially developed capitalist countries--has finished work. The session was held in advance of the meeting of Western leaders scheduled to take place in Tokyo at the end of June and commentators have consequently regarded it as an unofficial rehearsal of the forthcoming summit meeting of the "Big Seven."

Many of the session's 150 participants spoke of the need to harmonize the economic policies of the United States, Japan and the countries of Western Europe. This idea met with no objections from any of the partners, but neither did it give rise to any illusions as to its feasibility. The fact is, the speakers generally took harmonization to mean giving their own countries advantages at the expense of the others. However, no interest was expressed in making mutual concessions, and this made it possible for Iwasa, a distinguished representative of Japanese business circles and chairman of the "Japanese-American Economic Council." to sum up the discussions on "policy harmonization" with the rejoinder: "It is easy to talk but hard to act."

The Tokyo session devoted considerable attention to the question of the West's attitude toward China. Bankers, political scientists, retired ministers and industrialists were unanimous in their approval of the course being pursued by the present Beijing leadership. It is easy to see why. Those taking part in the session perceived the Chinese leaders' line as "drawing China into the international community," that is, as a rapprochement with the world capitalist system.

A flurry of activity both inside and outside the conference-room of the (Okura) Hotel was provoked by former U.S. Secretary of State H. Kissinger who with unflagging monotony made assertions about "the growth of the Soviet threat" and "the need for cohesive opposition to it." Nobody appears to have been anxious to share H. Kissinger's view.

When the "Trilateral Commission" was formed great hopes were pinned on it, and it was anticipated that it would help overcome crisis phenomena in the capitalist world. But the work of the "Trilateral Commission's" Tokyo session convinces us that not only has it had no success in overcoming or even attenuating the contradictions which exist within the leading countries and in the relations between them, but it is also faced with an intensification of economic problems.

And it is the recognition of that reality which explains the gloomy tones coloring the whole atmosphere of the Tokyo session. In particular, the report, "industrial policy and the world economy" presented to the session participants was couched in far from optimistic tones. In pointing out the emergence and the development in the capitalist camp's economy of profound contradictions of a structural nature, which are leading to a worsening of interstate relations among the major Western countries, the report was unable to make any realistic suggestions for overcoming the contradictions, other than creating a "fire tower"--a joint organ for spotting new breeding grounds of conflict in economic relations and warning the governments of the appropriate countries about them.

Despite these "emergency" measures a storm of acute contradictions is approaching the world capitalist system. The "Trilateral Commission's" Tokyo session left no doubt whatever about that.

AAPSO ISSUES CAIRO STATEMENT ON ISRAEL'S ATTACK ON LEBANON

LD112210 Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, May 11, TASS--The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization has strongly condemned the brutal crimes committed by the Israeli militarists in the territory of the Lebanon.

The statement, issued here by the organization's General Secretariat, calls attention to the fact that the criminal actions of the Lebanese separatists and Israeli aggressors are committed at the time when Washington, jointly with Tel Aviv, is cynically speaking about a "just and comprehensive peace" in the Middle East. What peace can there be when Israel is killing with U.S. blessing innocent women and children, when Israeli aggressors are daily carrying out punitive operations against the Lebanon with a view to wiping out the Arab people of Palestine!

All these facts, the document stresses, reveal with new force the perfidious plans of U.S. imperialism and international Zionism to escalating the Israeli expansion, imposing upon the Arab peoples, one after another, a capitulatory separate solution of the Middle East conflict, using the Middle East as a place d'armes for dealing blows at the progressive forces of the African and Asian continents.

Warning against the possible dangerous consequences of the collusion of American imperialism, Zionism and world reaction, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization calls on all the progressive forces in the Arab world to prevent the escalation of the bloody events in the Lebanon, which are the first and direct result of the signing of the so-called Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization urges the Palestinian revolution, the national-progressive and democratic forces of all the Arab states to strengthen the alliance with the world revolutionary forces, with the countries of the socialist community, primarily, with the Soviet Union, which is a loyal friend of the Arab nation.

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING MATERIALS--Berlin, May 10, TASS--Specialists from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia as well as Britain, the Congo and the FRG took part in an international symposium in Magdeburg devoted to questions of utilizing building machinery and equipment. They discussed problems of applying modern machinery and technologies with the aim of utilising building materials more sparingly. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 11 May 79 LD]

TASS REPORTS AGREEMENT ON CARTER-BREZHNEV MEETING IN VIENNA

LD111510 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 11 May 79 LD

["Forthcoming Soviet-American Summit Meeting"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 11, TASS--Agreement has been reached that the meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev and President of the United States James Carter will take place in Vienna tentatively on June 15-18, it was officially announced here.

Leonid Brezhnev and James Carter will approve and sign the treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms, work on which is nearing completion, and discuss other questions of mutual interest to the USSR and the United States.

Soltan on U.S. Reaction to Summit

LD112142 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Our Washington correspondent Yuriy Soltan reports:

The report of the forthcoming meeting between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and U.S. President James Carter has been received by the American public with great satisfaction. Local observers term this meeting one of the most important events in international life. Many here realize that the course of world politics depends to a considerable extent on the state of Soviet-American relations.

The Soviet-American agreement concerning limitations of strategic offensive arms which will be signed during the meeting is, according to the local press, a good example which shows that no matter how serious the differences and contradictions between countries are, with good will it is still possible to strive for agreements, even on such acute questions as those which touch upon the national security of countries.

Frank Church, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has called on senators, who will debate and ratify the agreement, to forget interparty feuding and to support the agreement. Rejecting it, as Frank Church stressed, will bring us nearer the brink of a nuclear catastrophe.

It is also reported here that apart from disarmament, questions connected with developing Soviet-American trade and economic cooperation and important international problems will be discussed during the Soviet-American summit. The slogan "agreement without detente," which the opponents of improvement in Soviet-American relations have recently put forward here, is rejected by a majority of Americans. It is expected that the summit will not only lay the foundation of a process for a further limitation of the nuclear arms race, but that it will also make the international climate healthier on the whole.

Upcoming Meeting

LD112110 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1700 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] It has been officially announced that in accordance with the provisional agreement reached, the meeting between Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and James Carter will be held from 15 to 18 June in Vienna. Leonid Brezhnev and James Carter are to approve and sign the SALT agreement, on which final work is now being completed, and are to discuss other topics of mutual interest. Viktor Viktorov comments:

The Soviet Union has often proposed halting the production of nuclear weapons. We are for the gradual reduction of accumulated nuclear arms stockpiles until they are 100 percent liquidated. According to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the Soviet-U.S. SALT-II agreement will be an important step on the road toward slowing down the nuclear arms race. As Leonid Brezhnev stressed, the new agreement, if it is signed and ratified will create for a few years an obstacle for the further accumulation of the most destructive and most expensive weapons.

After the introduction of the agreement work will begin on a SALT-III agreement, which should go even further toward slowing the creation of new types of weapons and which should envisage not only arms limitation, but also their reduction by the two sides. The conclusion of the SALT-II agreement will undoubtedly have a beneficial influence on the entire international climate. We must not close our eyes to the fact that there are opponents of the Soviet-American agreement in the United States. Those circles are linked with the military-industrial complex. The greater the prospects for the conclusion of SALT-II, the more actively its opponents operate. Also Beijing is continuing its subversive activity against SALT-II. Immediately after the announcement of the agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, Deng Xiaoping made a loud attack against it.

No difficulties nor excuses of the enemies of peace are able to undermine the firm stand of the Soviet Union and its allies in striving for the consolidation of international security. The solution of the important problem of the present day--the slowing down of the arms race--depends on the success of the joint efforts of the Soviet and U.S. governments.

As Leonid Brezhnev said: Our countries have reached a responsible stage in making important decisions which will create the foundations for looking forward optimistically to a peaceful and bright future, as we would like to believe, and do believe.

CARTER 'PERSISTENCE' ON SALT CAN BOOST ELECTION CHANCES

LD111515 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 79 p 4 LD

[T. Kolesnichenko New York dispatch: "On the Stage and Behind the Scenes"]

[Text] The next presidential elections in the United States are still quite a long way off. But the curtain is already rising on the American political stage. As yet the participants in the longest, noisiest, most tiring and most expensive "show" known here as the "race for the presidency" are still mainly backstage. They are memorizing their roles and adding the last touches of greasepaint, rehearsing under the demanding gaze of experienced directors every gesture, every smile which they are going to present to the public. Then a few of the dozens of names will be called and the "primary" elections will be held, which largely determine the candidates from within the Democratic and Republican parties. Finally there will be these parties' conventions, the official nomination of the Republican and Democratic candidates, and then a "keen struggle" between them, pledges and mutual recriminations.

Then finally the day will come when the happy victor, surrounded by his family and closest aides and supporters, reads out the congratulations telegram from his vanquished rival. His voice will be drowned in a swell of florid music and specially hired girls in miniskirts bearing the winner's initials will perform something like a cancan.

All this is in the future. But now the "Jupiters" of the press, radio and television are beginning to turn their gaze toward the stage. The start of the race for the presidency is perhaps the most interesting time for observers. The political parties are formulating their strategy. A balance sheet of the activity of the administration in power at the current stage is drawn up. The most acute foreign and domestic problems facing the country are singled out, new "cures" for society's chronic ills are sought, and the rival parties' propaganda apparatus is mobilized to win "public opinion" over to their side.

A characteristic feature of the present situation is that the Democrats who won the White House in 1976 are by no means feeling confident of victory in the next elections. This is easily explained: The administration has been unable to cope with the country's domestic problems and this has disappointed the voters so much that it could not help causing uncertainty in the Democratic camp. Once in power, the Democratic administration has failed to fulfill most of its election promises. Instead of a "balanced" budget and a reduction in taxes there is an enormous state debt, an effective increase in taxes and a reduction in expenditure on social needs. Rhetoric about "human rights" abroad is combined with total indifference to the rights of the domestic population. Nor has the Democrats' attempt to combat inflation been successful. There is an unprecedented rise in prices--15 percent per year. And the "energy crisis" which in essence is artificially created by the monopolies has caused serious upheavals throughout the economy.

Millions of people in the United States are out of work, the contradictions between labor and capital have been exacerbated, military expenditure is constantly increasing instead of decreasing as promised and billions of dollars are disappearing from taxpayers' pockets for dubious foreign policy adventures.

Of course, this does not mean that the present U.S. President has no chance of being reelected. On the contrary, his chances are substantial enough. But either way, this is evidence of the great difficulties facing the White House and the entire Democratic Party. The Washington POST notes: "The low ratings in public opinion polls which Carter is getting are forcing the Democrats to think about an alternative...." A recent poll carried out in the key state of California showed that Senator Edward Kennedy is now in the lead among the 1980 Democratic presidential candidates. He is followed by Governor Edmund Brown of California.

E. Kennedy has not announced his candidacy, but, as a local observer stated here, "the windows in the White House are shaking from the heavy tread of the Kennedy clan." Relatively active groups, such as the "Democrats for Change in 1980," the "Democrats' Committee for an Alternative" and others have put him forward as their leader. In Iowa, for instance, money is already being collected for his election campaign. Some newspapers are full of predictions such as "the senator from Massachusetts will apparently have to yield to pressure from the party and agree to take the baton of his dead brothers." Others are more restrained in their predictions.

And what about the Republicans? As yet there is not such a clear polarization of forces here as can be seen among the Democrats. Appearing on the scene, one after another, are former CIA Director G. Bush, Congressman F. Crane from Illinois, Senator H. Baker from Tennessee, and others. However, the main struggle, at least in the first stage, it is believed here, will develop between J. Connally, ex-governor of Texas (who was, incidentally, a Democrat at one time), and R. Reagan, another former governor and movie actor, who has still not renounced the dream of "playing the part" of U.S. President.

R. Reagan has support from conservative (or rather, ultraconservative) circles of the party. He has a well-organized election machine and experience, with which he nearly "toppled" G. Ford in 1976. J. Connally has, as they say here, "real" money (above all the support of the Texas oil monopolies) and experience as a statesman. Moreover if Reagan stumbles at the start or in general abandons the "race," Connally will "inherit" the sympathies and corresponding votes of conservative circles among the Republicans.

Connally is busy already. He is visiting many states, holding meetings with voters and, what is particularly important, is active in the press and on television. It is characteristic, however, that he, like the other Republicans, lacks a clear-cut constructive program. At the moment all his slogans are "negative"--"Don't do what Carter did." Moreover, Connally looks not so much to America's future as to its past, its "golden age" so to speak. Connally presents himself to the electorate, the New York TIMES writes, "not as a logical successor to the present leaders but as a man who can bring back the good times from the American past." There is maybe one thing on which Connally is specific: He defends the interests of big business.

Foreign policy is the object of special manipulations by the presidential candidates. At first glance, all is clear: The overwhelming majority of Americans advocate detente, the strengthening of peace and strategic offensive arms limitation. However, highly influential circles, particularly those close to the military-industrial complex, are trying to push the country onto the path of dangerous adventures and to crank up the arms race. The "Soviet military threat," the "transformation of the United States into a second-rate power," the "threat to American national interests"--these and similar statements are rife in the domestic political struggle in America. For this very reason, for example, prominent representatives of the Republican Party who little more than 2 years ago participated in the talks on concluding the SALT-II agreement are now criticizing the administration, trying to place obstacles in the way of the signing of this agreement.

In these conditions, many commentators believe, the more persistent Carter is on this question the more it will be to his credit at the next elections, despite the opposition to the agreement which is being mounted by its opponents in the Senate. Many commentators believe that it is not a "hard line" but a reasonable position regarding SALT and support for the limitation of the arms race which increase the presidential contenders' chances.

On the other hand, certain political actions (like the separate Camp David Middle East deal), which today seem at first glance impressive and calculated to enhance the administration's popularity, will in the long term work against it, in the opinion of observers.

Speaking in Annapolis recently, Maryland Senator C. Mathias pointed out how dangerous the inconsistency in the administration's policies and its foreign policy "effects" sometimes are. "The establishment of diplomatic relations with China", he declared, "and the strengthening of their stability are a normal phenomenon, but encouraging China-mania in our country, particularly with anti-Soviet overtones, means playing a dangerous game which can lead only to greater international instability as a whole."

The internal political situation which has now arisen, in the opinion of certain observers, does not rule out the unexpected emergence of some "strong personality" to the fore in the election campaign. [paragraph continues]

In the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR R. Strout asks readers, as though in jest: "Do you want me to tell you a secret and name the next President? Of the 39 U.S. Presidents 10 were generals, that is, approximately one in four.... is there such a candidate for 1980? There is, and he is Gen Alexander Haig, who is unexpectedly ending his tenure of the post of supreme commander in chief of NATO Allied Armed Forces in Europe."

Of course, neither Strout himself nor the majority of Americans think that Haig, despite his ambitions, can get to the White House, but no one will be surprised if he tries to run as a Republican Party candidate and to make a militarist "contribution" to the election campaign.

And so, the curtain is being raised increasingly high above the state.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY STILL BASED ON ROOSEVELT VIEW OF FORCE

LD111605 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 May 79 p 5 LD

[Nikolay Polyanov article: "Shades of Old Teddy"]

[Text] U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, who inhabited the White House at the beginning of this century, left his successors quite a dismal legacy. To this day the name of "roaring Teddy" is linked with the "big stick" policy, gunboat expeditions, "showing the flag" on the high seas and unceremonious shows of strength--the strength which some people regard almost as the mother of diplomacy. Many decades have passed and the world has changed beyond all recognition. You can no longer cavort as you like with a "big stick" over other people's backs. But, alas, the ghost of "roaring Teddy" still haunts the U.S. political scene, as if in the outside world it were not the 79th but only the 9th year of this century.

A hopeless anachronism? Undoubtedly. And, seemingly, it is for this very reason that some statesmen on that side of the Atlantic have set themselves the task of applying a spot of rouge to the face of present-day America to make it less repulsive in the world's eyes and of replacing the "ugly American," who emerged from the Vietnam war, with a more photogenic cousin. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Presidential National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski have recently come out with expansive interpretations of the nature of U.S. policy, emphasizing above all that it is taken up with the search for "new solutions" in our restless and changeable world. Here nothing adverse was said about the changes themselves (what can you do, you have to accept them as they are!) and, moreover, they even attempted to convince the public that Washington is really prepared to applaud the various changes in the world. As the secretary of state noted, the United States "not only adapts excellently to changes," it even regards them as "rich soil in which to flourish." The presidential adviser expressed roughly the same feeling.

Listening to these speeches, many people rubbed their eyes! What has happened? If Washington, which decides U.S. policy, is really prepared to adapt to the modern world, to recognize the new political map of the globe [polushariya] and to proceed on the basis of its established realities, then this can only be welcomed. If the "big stick" has been consigned to the archives and the dreadnoughts are securely tied up in their home ports then it is possible to breathe freely--the train of detente can proceed at full speed ahead!

But drawing hasty conclusions is sometimes a risky business and in this case it would be simply foolish. If the two prestigious representatives of the Washington administration have spoken of the need to "seek new approaches" in diplomacy and if they have attempted to create the impression that such a search has already commenced, then this is not in order to really revise the worn-out dogmas of U.S. policy but merely to conceal them. The fairness of such suspicions is confirmed by the political prescription proposed by both speakers. The be all and end all of this prescription is the desire to insure a U.S. advantage in the world balance of forces. It transpires that the Washington searchers for "new approaches" are guided not by respect for other peoples or by a readiness to compromise whenever this can contribute to detente but only by military might. They see it as a magic wand for consolidating America's place in the sun. And this despite the acknowledgement of the existing balance of world forces which, not without reason, C. Vance calls the "only realistic strategy." It is especially surprising that such acknowledgement is coupled with the recommendation that "America should use its extraordinary strength to solve the problems of a changing world."

What kind of problems? They are not specified but later passages speak for themselves: "We have easy access to the sea, which enables us to have diversified strategic forces and to impressively demonstrate our strength" and, as a result, "we have an unsurpassed capacity to exercise leadership and a capacity to thrive in a changing world."

As regards Europe, according to the presidential adviser, all this means choosing between "stimulating further disarmament" and "if necessary introducing new weapon systems." Did we hear right? Can there really be any question of complacently comparing the advantages of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe with those of peaceful coexistence? For the Europeans such a choice is inconceivable--they see no sensible alternative to cooperation and detente.

In other words, Washington has imparted nothing new to the disillusioned public but, quite the reverse, has only confirmed that it is not too interested in learning historical lessons, in no way wants to understand the world on the threshold of the 21st century and is clutching at illusions long since dispelled by the course of events.

Some people in Washington still assume that the "policy of strength" is a universal remedy against revolutionary changes in the world and that with its aid it is even possible to halt the historical process. The hopelessness of such calculations--with all their danger--was shown recently by America's Brookings Institute. Experts there published an investigation which examined the question: To what extent have the armed forces become an instrument of U.S. policy? The answer turned out to be truly ominous. It was discovered that in the three decades between January 1946 and December 1975 the United States threatened other countries with force 215 times in order to win political benefits. That is an average of one American military threat every 2 months, with all the destructive consequences for international security! That is the calling card of the kind of diplomacy described by Washington as helping the United States to "adapt to a changed world." In three decades the "big stick" appeared more than 200 times in various parts of the world, in the Dominican Republic, in the Vietnamese jungles, in the North Atlantic, in the Eastern Mediterranean, in the approaches to the Persian Gulf.... Nevertheless, it has been unable to halt the revolutionary changes in the world.

The statistics of American threats of nuclear force are particularly somber-looking. In three decades they resorted to such threats 19 times, that is more than once every 2 years. The threats were directed both at socialist states and other countries. On two occasions in the fifties, the authors of the investigation emphasize, the U.S. 6th Fleet was put on combat alert "at a time when it was the chief component of the U.S. nuclear mechanism." On two occasions nuclear bombers flew to Latin America in a show of strength and on one occasion a nuclear submarine was deployed off the Turkish coast for the same purpose.

It is no accident that the authors of the investigation come to the conclusion that nuclear threats are attractive "only under conditions of U.S. nuclear supremacy." As is known, that ceased to exist long ago. However, it is precisely for this reason that rightwing circles in the United States--primarily the so-called "Committee on the Present Danger", which includes particularly big-caliber "hawks"--are attempting wholeheartedly to torpedo the Soviet-American SALT agreement being drawn up. For this agreement is based on equality and the equal security of the sides. As the French journal LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE correctly notes, the "hawks" are well aware that "an acknowledged nuclear first strike capability is a weapon which can be used in international political relations and it is intolerable to these people that the United States has now been deprived of this weapon."

Here is another important detail: It transpires that the tendency of some Washington figures to turn to threats of force and to military intervention increases with rises in stock market rates. In drawing this conclusion the experts at the Brookings Institution are merely confirming the inseparable link between U.S. policy and the military-industrial complex.

That is the opposite side of the coin which was presented to public opinion by Washington recently. They attempted to convince the public that the creators of the "new diplomacy" are almost ecstatic about the good changes taking place in the world. But events testify against them. Newspaper commentators have not yet finished studying the statements by the two U.S. statesmen and yet the aircraft carrier "Dwight Eisenhower"--the flagship of the U.S. 6th Fleet--has already sailed into the Israeli port of Haifa for the latest exercise in "showing the flag." Gunboat diplomacy continues.

RECENT EVENTS SHOULD CHANGE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD PRC

LD130921 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] In some of my previous talks in this series I described the impressions of my last visit to the United States a few months ago. I spoke among other things of what I described as the China festival among the United States business community and political circles. I mentioned the fact that many businessmen and politicians whom I met on my visit were full of the most optimistic hopes about doing business with Beijing. In my talks in this series I cited some facts in support of my own view that the euphoria about China in the United States is unrealistic and that it will eventually fade away.

I bring up this subject again today and I do so, I must admit, with a feeling of professional satisfaction because events of the past few weeks seem to bear out my conclusions on this score.

Some sections of the United States business community were most enthusiastic about prospects of a major expansion of trade with China. They thought that China would become a major importer of United States goods.

As for politicians, with the exception of those who pinned their hopes on playing the China card against the Soviet Union, they kept telling me about profound changes on China's domestic scene. [sentence as heard] They assured me that the present leaders of China were abandoning the old methods of Mao Zedong who ignored legality and conducted mass purges in which millions of innocent people lost their lives. American politicians spoke about China's shift toward democracy and towards honoring the rights of its citizens. So what do we see now? Repetition of the past. China is now much the same as it was during the reign of Mao, and at that time United States politicians and the media were unanimous in denouncing his practices. Many people may still recall the ill-fated big leap launched by Mao Zedong, who declared that he wanted to turn China into an advanced industrial nation in record time. The big leap was a flop. China's economy was just marking time and today, just as in the past, China still ranks among the underdeveloped countries.

As for the present Chinese leadership, they have decided to replace the big leap with a call for four modernizations. So the name is different but for all practical purposes it's the same big leap, the latest example of ambitious wishful thinking by China's leaders. It's these four modernizations that had (?put) some United States businessmen into a dream world of illusions. These businessmen, who can be as shrewd and practical as any, had started counting their profits from Chinese trade and kept sending their representatives to Beijing trying to make the best of their golden opportunity.

In the past it took 2 or 3 years for people to realize that there was really no substance to China's big leap. Dreams generated by the four modernizations collapsed in only a few months' time. The Beijing leadership is now busy drafting its widely advertised economic programs because they have been found to be completely out of touch with reality. And the Western companies which have managed to sign some contracts with the Chinese are now getting cancellation notices on these deals. An economic observer for the Washington POST said a few days ago that the Chinese leadership is reconsidering the targets of the four modernizations. The paper said that United States business circles feel that the Chinese are in the process of a fundamental reappraisal of the possibilities of China's industrial development and trade. The paper said that instead of spending from $75 to $85 billion on industrial equipment and new technology by 1985 as was originally planned, the Chinese are now likely to reduce this sum by no less than 50 percent, and I, for one, feel that this new figure is too optimistic. Facts that have been revealed in Beijing in recent times prove that there is really no hope for the West of securing a big market in China over the next few decades. No one likes to be disillusioned but the sooner one gets back on the ground the better.

And I can think of yet another analogy between China's past and present. One famous slogan launched by Mao was about 100 flowers blossoming and about 100 schools competing with one another. We all know about the ways in which they dealt with both the flowers and the schools in China under Mao. Mao's dictatorial regime stamped out everything that did not suit its purpose and some naive people who were taken by Mao's calls paid with their lives for being so trustful. This same old story is being repeated again today. The U.S. media in recent months have spared no words to describe China's turn to democracy, and it was these reports that had prompted some quarters to make farreaching conclusions and to say that the human rights situation in China has changed to such an extent that it's out of place to apply trade and economic sanctions against Beijing.

It's interesting to note that politicians like Senator Jackson have passed in silence recent reports of mass arrests of Chinese dissidents and of huge demonstrations being smashed in Beijing, Shanghai, Quangzhou and other Chinese cities.

These politicians have nothing to say about water cannon being used to wash down wall posters calling for honoring the rights of Chinese citizens and for basic rules of legality in China. Deng Xiaoping has dealt with the 100 flowers the way Mao did in his time. This shattered one more illusion about China.

So all that remains are just some Washington leaders who waste no time in trying to explain their motives to the public and who are determined to play the China card in their game against the Soviet Union. But one really does not have to be an expert to realize that this game is dangerous, that it can bring no profit, and that a person who starts it will most likely be the loser.

China's aggression against Vietnam had demonstrated some of the possible consequences of this game for Washington. The Beijing leaders are openly trying to involve the United States in their political strategy and the adventurist policies of Beijing may seriously destabilize the international situation. The United States business community may lose a lot by abandoning normal trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union in favor of a most unreliable new partner who jumps from one extreme to another. It takes years to build effective trade links but it may take just a few months to destroy them. Attempts to use trade discrimination against the Soviet Union have brought nothing but losses to U.S. firms. These firms have been losing attractive Soviet orders to their West European and Japanese rivals.

As for attempts to blackmail the Soviet Union by the prospect of a Chinese-American alliance, plans of this kind can only be contemplated by people who are new in politics and who are out of touch with political realities. The really important thing, the thing that really counts, are not some academic schemes dreamed up by ex-college people holding academic degrees but the real balance of forces. This balance of strength proves that China remains, despite its size, an underdeveloped country both economically and militarily.

Security in the present day world which is equally important for the Americans and for the Russians, as well as for all other nations, depends above all on the relations between our two countries. Attempts to replace political realism with fine abstract schemes are both futile and dangerous for universal peace. One can only hope that the latest developments in China will generate some second thoughts in the minds of those who abandoned political realism in favor of some unfounded illusions.

KORNILOV HITS 'PROVOCATIVE OPUSES' OF SLANDERERS IN POST

LD111732 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1446 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, 11 May, TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

It is well known that insinuation, lies and slander are the age-old weapon of those enemies of detente who work for the bourgeois press. Typical examples of these hawks of the pen are the American journalists Evans and Novak. It has become the rule that whenever there is a turn for the better in Soviet-American relations, these gentlemen emerge in the Washington POST with the next piece of "news," which has clearly been fed them by the CIA and the other American departments that work against detente with the aim of slandering the USSR and intimidating Americans with the "Soviet threat."

And what nonsense and ill-meaning fabrications this hawkish duo has heaped onto the pages of the Washington POST! Now Evans and Novak are assiduously playing up to the Maoists in Beijing who are increasing anti-Sovietism. Now they are calling on the U.S. Government to "adopt the most extreme measures" with regard to Cuba and are fabricating falsehoods regarding the mythical "participation by the USSR" in the events in Iran.

And here is the latest "sensation" to be publicized in the Washington POST by these gentlemen: It is said that in Cuban waters not far from Florida, there is a secret Soviet submarine. Is Moscow intending to turn Cuba into "a base for its operations in Latin America?" ask Evans and Novak.

The astonished reader of the Washington POST had hardly had time to digest this report when the same paper served up another "news item" in the same slanderous spirit: It seems that a second Soviet submarine has been discovered, stationed this time off the coast of Vietnam. And here's the interesting point: The mythical submarines born of the inflamed imagination of Evans, Novak and Co. turn up, one after the other, in the pages of the Washington POST not just at random times, but at the very moment the USSR and the United States have reached a crucial state of important decisions in the sphere of curbing the arms race.

Is this a coincidence? Not at all. The hawks of the pen, who, incidentally, are playing not the least important role in the so-called Committee on the Present Danger, under the roof of which nest the most hard-nosed enemies of detente, are true to form: Sensing the approach of favorable political weather, they at once put out the most absurd, the most malicious disinformation, in order to cloud the weather at all costs...

The ill-intentioned cock-and-bull stories of Vance [as received] and Novak are no longer being taken seriously by anyone. These tall stories are refuted by the facts, by reality itself. But the slanderers go on supplying the Washington POST with their provocative opuses. Those who pay them for their unseemly work evidently go on the old principle that if you throw enough mud, some will stick. Their efforts are in vain. Lies are lies, even when repeated many times.

DEMICHEV, VANCE MEET IN WASHINGTON ON 10 MAY

LD111118 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0955 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Washington--A meeting between Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Soviet minister of culture, and Cyrus Vance, U.S. secretary of state, took place here yesterday. In connection with the development of cultural links between the USSR and the United States, Cyrus Vance stressed their importance for Soviet-U.S. relations. Vance went on to say we have now finished the talks on an agreement on SALT-II. He expressed hope that this agreement would be signed at the forthcoming high-level meeting. During the meeting, questions of the further development of cultural cooperation between the two countries were touched upon. On the same day, a presentation ceremony of a personal gift from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to Armand Hammer, the well-known industrialist and public figure--a sculpture image of Hammer by sculptor Nikolay Tomskiy, national artist of the USSR--took place at the USSR Embassy. Petr Demichev read out the text of a personal letter to Armand Hammer and wished him success in his activity aimed at the improvement of relations between the two countries. Armand Hammer thanked Leonid Brezhnev for this gift.

JI BENGFEI HOPE OF U.S. 'TEACHING CUBA A LESSON' DENOUNCED

LD110957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 79 p 5 LD

[V. Korionov "Rejoinder": "Escalation of Incitement"]

[Text] The Beijing ruling clique is evidently overcome by concern over how to sow new seeds of dissent among states. Indicative in this respect is an interview given to AP by Ji Bengfei, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the All-China National People's Congress. He did not restrict himself to reiterating the threat that "China reserves the right to conduct a new military operation against Vietnam." The Chinese parliamentarian went further. He began to speak of "teaching a lesson" to...Cuba.

It is notable that in Ji Bengfei's opinion the "lesson to Cuba" should be taught by... the United States. The minister is so eager to set the United States against the socialist country that he even suggests, in a businesslike way, the region for a potential U.S.-Cuban confrontation: "somewhere in Africa, for instance."

"Rats know rats' paths," the Chinese say of such politicians. The paths along which the Beijing provocateurs are sneaking are those of setting states against each other. In the past, when the U.S. aggressors were fighting in Vietnam, they brought into play the term "escalation," signifying the gradual buildup of dangerous actions. The Beijing leaders are clearly taking lessons from them: They are engaging in the escalation of incitement.

Only the Chinese capital supposes in vain that the peoples will not understand this criminal game.

'SERIOUS DIFFERENCES' OBSERVED IN U.S.-PRC TRADE TALKS

LD120310 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[(Viktor Yannikeyev) commentary]

[Text] The United States and China have agreed in principle about a new trade agreement. This is reported from Beijing where an American delegation, led by United States Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps, has been on a 2-week visit. Now a comment by our news analyst (Viktor Yannikeyev) and this is what he writes:

If the remaining unsolved issues are ironed out this will be the first American-Chinese agreement signed in 40 years. There is very scarce information about the talks underway in the Chinese capital. Neither Mrs Kreps nor the Chinese foreign trade minister, Li Qiang, make any comment about their progress. This and some other facts make it possible for international observers to assume there are serious differences between the two sides. Apparently Mrs Kreps was right when she told journalists the talks in Beijing would be complex and protracted. It was earlier expected the representatives of the two countries would discuss a whole number of other issues of mutual interest. The currently prevailing opinion is that the issue of an air link between the United States and China, and some other issues, won't be discussed at these talks.

In the meantime, the news that the trade agreement with China is about to be signed has produced no noisy acclaim in the American business community.

The euphoria among American businessmen about the tremendous size of the Chinese market has given way to skepticism and doubt. Such a mood is a consequence of the Chinese invasion of Vietnam, according to the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT. Indeed, the Chinese aggression not only revealed the essence of Beijing's hegemonistic policy but showed the weakness of the Chinese economy. American businessmen could see for themselves that China, with its militarized economy, cannot be a reliable partner in the world trade and economic exchange.

Soon after the Chinese invasion of Vietnam began, Beijing was forced to postpone action on 30 contracts with Japanese companies worth a total of more than $2 billion. The American losses, though not as great, were moderate but quite substantial. Notices of suspension of contract were sent to the United States Steel and Bethlehem Steel. Losses were also incurred by two other American companies, International Continental [as heard] and Hyatt International, that specialize in hotel building. Such developments could be expected since by following a policy of aggression and preparation for war Beijing needs not new hotels but barracks for troops. As for the current American-Chinese trade agreement that's being drafted in Beijing, Chinese leaders loudly declare they have a sincere interest in it. Well, this may be so, but no one is likely to predict what action Beijing may take soon after the signatures under the agreement have dried up. Political purges are still going on in China. High-ranking politicians are being replaced and changed like in a kaleidoscope. First they disappear from the scene and then they suddenly reappear. According to some American diplomats, China is very much like a house of cards in which everything is shaky, beginning from the positions of the country's top leaders and ending with the very foundations of the Chinese economy.

In the recent past China gave priority to the industries producing heavy machinery. Now it has concentrated on agriculture and it is unknown what the priority may be in the near future. The only thing unchanged in the political life in Beijing is the orientation towards a continued arms race and whipping up of war psychosis in the country. For several years Beijing's direct military spending has stood at 40 percent of the annual national budget. Obviously, by spending such vast funds on military purposes China is unable to pay even for a small share of the deals that were earlier planned to be made with the United States. And so at the current talks in Beijing with United State Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps, Chinese leaders complained of limited financial possibilities. Meanwhile, almost coinciding with these talks, Chinese representatives were holding other negotiations in Washington with the Fairchild Industries Corporation about purchasing A-10 military aircraft. Apparently Beijing does have the money for the planes. This and other similar facts indicate the true and really unchanged interests of Beijing. Evidently this is the reason for the difficulties at the talks between United States Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps and the Chinese leaders.

ITT DELEGATION INVITED TO VISIT CHINA NEXT MONTH

LD121324 Moscow TASS in English 1242 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Washington, May 12, TASS--The present Chinese leadership strives to expand its ties with the military-industrial complex of the United States of America. According to a spokesman for the U.S. ITT Corporation known for its close links with the CIA and the Pentagon, the Chinese Government has invited ITT representatives to visit China with the view to "strengthening and developing" contacts. The ITT spokesman pointed out that the U.S. delegation of five [of the] corporation's officials will come to China next month. The delegation will be headed by ITT's Vice President R. Nichols.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON OUTCOME OF U.S.-JAPANESE TALKS

LD110921 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 79 p 5 LD

[Igor Latyshev report under "Commentator's Column" rubric: "After Talks"]

[Text] Tokyo--Japanese Prime Minister M. Ohira has visited the United States. The results of the Japanese-U.S. talks defy straightforward appraisal. No appreciable unanimity on the part of those taking part was displayed except during the discussion of questions connected with military cooperation between Tokyo and Washington on the basis of the so-called "security treaty," and of questions of relations with Beijing.

It is reported that during the talks Ohira stressed the importance of U.S. military presence in East Asia and the Pacific while Carter urged Japan to effect a "qualitative improvement" in its military might. The fact that the participants of the Washington meeting confirmed their readiness to proceed even further along the path of building up the arms of both countries attests that the thrust of the talks was dangerous to the cause of peace in the Far East.

Political commentators attach great significance to the exchange of opinions on the relations of the two countries with Beijing. Here, the readiness they expressed to actively promote China's "modernization" by expanding economic and scientific and technical ties with it is noted. Japan's peace-loving circles draw attention here to the absence in the communique's text of even the slightest hint of a discussion of the Chinese armed aggression in Vietnam and at the same time to the presence in the communique of hostile utterances against Vietnam and Kampuchea.

At the same time, the results of the Japanese-U.S. summit meeting attest to the existence of profound disagreements between the sides in the sphere of mutual economic relations. Therefore, those taking part in the talks did not succeed in putting an end to the "trade war" flaring up between the U.S. and Japanese businessmen. This is confirmed by the failure of the attempts by Ohira's and Carter's aides during parallel talks at the working level to find mutually acceptable paths toward liquidating the enormous deficit in the U.S. trade balance with Japan which reached $12 billion last year. Despite pressure from Washington, the Japanese side has not agreed to lift the restrictions which make access to the Japanese domestic market for the output of U.S. enterprises more difficult.

The results of the Washington summit meeting have been sharply condemned by the progressive parties of the Japanese parliamentary opposition. The statements published in Tokyo by spokesmen of the communist and socialist parties voice in particular profound alarm for the destiny of peace in Asia and condemn the militarist policy of the ruling circles of Washington and Japan.

Japanese-U.S. relations remain a source of constant conflicts and unabating disagreements for both countries.

NEW ACCORDS EXPAND SOVIET-JAPANESE FISHING COOPERATION

LD111547 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 19, 4 May 79 p 15 LD

[T. Shkolnikova article under rubric "Commentaries": "Mutually Advantageous Partnership"]

[Text] Fishing in the Pacific has long been an object of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Japan. [paragraph continues]

The long years of fishing in the same region have not been without complications, but the two sides have invariably found mutually acceptable solutions.

The northwestern part of the Pacific is one of the most productive from the fishery viewpoint. Japanese and Soviet fishermen have caught in the regions of the Pacific almost 14 percent of the world fish catch (both countries are leaders in ocean fishing).

Following the introduction in the seventies of huge economic and fishing zones over whose biological resources the jurisdiction of the littoral states extends, a new agreement envisaging major measures to conserve biological resources was concluded between the two countries in April last year. And the first session of the Soviet-Japanese Fishery Commission was held in Moscow recently. It discussed questions connected with estimating raw material reserves in the northwestern Pacific, agreed on a new plan for scientific and technical cooperation and held in exchange of opinions on the prospects for joint research.

Talks on salmon began immediately after the end of the commission's first session. Why was this species discussed separately? The salmonidae are among the so-called migratory fish. The draft global convention which is to be adopted at the UN Law of the Sea Conference establishes sovereign rights for the salmonidae's state of origin throughout their migration until they enter the fishing zones of foreign states. This provision has already been entered in the legislation of the USSR and Japan.

Silver salmon, red salmon, king salmon, keta and pink salmon spawn in the rivers of the Soviet Far East. Our country is responsible for these populations in the ocean. Morover, the salmonidae are a most valuable fishing target. And so the discussion of this question is the topic of individual talks. Opening them, N.P. Kudryavtsev, head of the Soviet delegation and USSR first deputy minister of the fish industry, said:

"Stocks of the most valuable species of salmon have been undermined by fishing. In this connection I must stress once again that invariability of our line concerning the scientifically substantiated need for a total end to sea fishing of salmon. Our agreement at the present talks does not signify a deviation from that line. But, proceeding from a spirit of good neighborliness and taking it into account that the Japanese fishing industry has not finished reorganizing its salmon fishing, the Soviet Union has deemed it possible to permit Japanese fishermen a restricted catch of salmon under certain conditions."

The protocol on the procedure and conditions for Japanese salmon fishing in 1979 outside the 200-mile coastal zone defines additional prohibited zones in the places where the fish congregate on their way to spawn and establishes quotas for the catch of the most valuable species. The new fishery accords are a step toward further expanding Japanese-Soviet cooperation.

JAPANESE, S. KOREAN MILITARY COOPERATION INCREASES

LD131142 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, May 13, TASS--According to reports from Seoul, former head of Japan's Defence Agency Shin Kanemaru had a meeting with South Korean dictator Pak Chong-hui. They discussed problems of building up military cooperation of Japan and South Korea. During his stay in Seoul, Shin Kanemaru also met with Defence Minister No Chae-hyon.

The recent time has been witnessing more frequent contacts between Japanese military leaders and South Korean leaders, which testify to the intentions of the ruling circles of Japan to take part in the consolidation of the South Korean Armed Forces. Japanese General S. Nagano, chief of staff of the Ground Self-Defence Forces of Japan, returned from Seoul a few days ago. He held negotiations on the build-up of military cooperation between Japan, South Korea and the United States.

PONOMAREV, JAPAN CP DELEGATION DISCUSS CPSU-JCP RELATIONS

LD101455 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Meeting at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] On 6 May T. Nishizawa, deputy chairman of the Japanese Communist Party [JCP] Central Committee Presidium; H. Marakami, deputy chairman of the JCP Central Committee Presidium; and K. Masuada, deputy chief of the JCP Central Committee International Department, arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

On 7 May B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received T. Nishizawa, H. Marakami and K. Masuda at the CPSU Central Committee. During the meeting there was an exchange of views on matters relating to the development of relations between the CPSU and JCP.

The Soviet officials at the meeting were P.N. Fedoseyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee; V.V. Zagladin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee; R.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and I.I. Kovalenko, CPSU Central Committee International Department Sector chief.

JCP DELEGATION IN MOSCOW FAILS TO REACH FINAL ACCORD

OW120125 Tokyo KYODO in English 0104 GMT 12 May 79 OW

[Text] Moscow, 11 May (KYODO)--Tomio Nishizawa, vice chairman of the Japan Communist Party now in Moscow for preparatory talks on conciliation between JCP and the Soviet Communist Party, appears to failed to find a final accord on the issue. Nishizawa, accompanied by Hiroshi Tachiki, a JCP Presidium member, completed substantial discussions with Soviet party delegates by Friday. But the JCP officials said they had nothing to announce. This has led observers to believe that Nishizawa failed to reach a final agreement with the Soviet party about the date and subjects for discussion for the planned meeting in Moscow between JCP Chairman Kenji Miyamoto and Soviet party chief Leonid Brezhnev. Informed sources said the JCP delegates will spend the weekend in the suburbs of Moscow and leave here for home Monday. The sources did not rule out the possibility of another round of negotiations between the JCP representatives and Soviet party officials before their departure for Tokyo.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY--Tokyo, May 12, TASS--A congress of the Japanese-Soviet Friendship Society opened here. Its delegates discussed and adopted a program for the society's activities for next year. M. Akagi, the society's president, said addressing the congress that the relations between the Soviet and the Japanese peoples must develop on the basis of the principles of friendship and cooperation which will contribute to the consolidation of peace and stability in Asia and the world. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 12 May 79 LD]

REPORTAGE ON PRC-SRV CONFLICT CONTINUES

PRC Border Activity

LD122120 Moscow TASS in English 2038 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 12, TASS--Beijing continues heightening tensions on the border between Vietnam and China, says a document of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam circulated here. The document says that Chinese troops continue holding unlawfully more than ten points in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and that over ten of Chinese Army Corps are in the state of alert in Guangdong and Yunnan provinces. 12 Chinese divisions are deployed close to the Vietnamese border. Military equipment is being constantly brought there. New artillery positions and reinforcements are being built. The exercises of Chinese land forces, navy and air force have been held in the recent days on the border with Vietnam. The stream of slanderous allegations and threats to unleash a new war are poured from loudspeakers installed on the Chinese side.

The document of the Foreign Ministry says that on April 30 and May 1 Chinese soldiers numbering up to 1 company broke into villages of Sin Man District of Ha Tuyen Province. On May 2 and May 3 Chinese troops seized two heights near the border, burnt down tens of houses in the communities Pavaisi and Tika in Sin Man District. On May 1, 2 and 3, Chinese intelligence and sabotage groups penetrated a number of districts of provinces Hoang Lien Son, Lang Son and Cao Bang and were conducting subversive operations in Ha Tuyen and Lai Chau provinces. On May 9 the Chinese military opened machinegun fire on a number of areas in Vang Lang District of Lang Son Province.

Chinese planes violated many times in May the air space of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Lang Son and Quang Ninh provinces. On May 6 and May 9 Chinese vessels violated the territorial waters of Vietnam in the area of the Koto and Bat Long Vy islands.

NHAN DAN on Prisoner Exchange

LD131759 Moscow TASS in English 1559 GMT 13 May 79 LD

["Vietnam Shows Good Will"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, May 13, TASS--The paper NHAN DAN carries an editorial on the Vietnamese-Chinese relations. It is absolutely clear, the article says, that the matter of an exchange of prisoners of war is part of these negotiations. The Vietnamese delegation showed good will by working for the earliest return of the war prisoners to their families. The Chinese side, however, took up an absurd stance and is obstructing the solution of the question.

The actions of the Chinese side over the war prisoners question, the paper underlines, freshly confirm its great-power off-handed stand, of the striving to impose its will on Vietnam. The behavior of the Chinese side eloquently testifies to the failure of the Chinese to respect the principles of the negotiations and demonstrate that China seeks to impose its position on others.

Hanoi, May 13, TASS--The Red Cross Society of Vietnam sent a letter to the Chinese Red Cross Society about the exchange of war prisoners. It says that the Vietnamese Red Cross Society is empowered by the SRV Government to decide on questions pertaining to the return of prisoners of war with the Chinese side. The Chinese side is offered to organise a meeting between representatives of the two countries' Red Cross societies on May 21 at the border line post of Hyung.

SRV SPOKESMAN JUSTIFIES SOVIET USE OF VIETNAMESE HARBORS

LD111530 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, May 11, TASS--The entry of Soviet naval ships into Vietnamese harbours is a normal development in relations between two countries that have friendly relations and fully accords with the practice and principles extensively accepted in the international community. This statement was made by a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in an interview to a correspondent of the VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCY.

Touching on the concoctions of some foreign agencies, the spokesman of the SRV Foreign Ministry stressed that there is not a single foreign military base in Vietnam and Vietnam does not allow any country whatsoever to use Vietnamese territory for encroachments on the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of a third country.

Vietnam, he stressed, invariably pursues in the international plane a policy of independence, peace, friendship and extensive cooperation, this being a substantial contribution to the cause of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and in the whole world.

KAMPUCHEA'S SAMRIN CABLES THANKS TO BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN

LD111708 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] In a telegram addressed to Lenoid Ilich Brezhnev and Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, Heng Samrin, president of the People's Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and president of the Central Committee of the republic's National United Front for National Salvation, has thanked them for their congratulations and wishes on the event of the national holiday of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. He expressed the profound gratitude of the Kampuchean people to the CPSU, the USSR Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers for their great and valuable support and aid. The People's Republic of Kampuchea, the message stresses, is fully determined to strengthen its solidarity, friendship and many-sided cooperation with the Soviet Union in the interests of both countries and in the interest of national independence, democracy and socialism thoughout the world.

BOSTORIN APPOINTED NEW AMBASSADOR TO KAMPUCHEA

LD121320 Moscow TASS in English 1249 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--Oleg Bostorin has been appointed Soviet ambassador to the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

He was born in 1931. His diplomatic career began in 1954. He has held a number of important posts in the apparatus of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and abroad. He served with the USSR embassies in Thailand and Singapore. In 1972-1978, he was deputy head of the Southeast Asia Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry. From 1978 till 1979 he was adviser-ambassador in the USSR Embassy in the Philippines. He has the diplomatic rank of the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador.

SFRY SPOKESMAN DISCUSSES TITO'S VISIT TO USSR

LD131613 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Belgrade, May 13, TASS--At a press conference here a spokesman of the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs M. Kaljezic touched on the forthcoming friendly visit to the USSR of Yugoslav President and Chairman of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Josip Broz Tito. The visit, which is at the invitation of the CPSU and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, will take place, he said, in a period of positive development of relations between the two countries in every field on a reciprocally adopted principled basis. We are looking forward to a fruitful dialogue on all questions of mutual interest, a dialogue which, just as all previous meetings between the two presidents, will doubtlessly have wide importance for examining the complex international situation and international problems, as well as for the further development of friendly relations, strengthening understanding and reciprocally advantageous cooperation.

Moscow Previews Visit

LD121304 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1730 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] As already reported, it has been announced in Moscow that Josip Broz Tito, president of the SFRY and of the LCY, will come to the Soviet Union in the middle of May on a friendly visit and brief holiday. The Soviet people have received this news with interest, our commentator Yuriy Shalygin writes: We nurture great sympathies towards the Yugoslav people and we are interested in the consolidation of our friendship which has a long tradition. In its links with Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union proceeds from the principled line of mutual relations with socialist countries, a line which was formulated at CPSU congresses. We firmly adhere to the tested rule of conducting affairs in the spirit of genuine equality and of interest in mutual successes, of elaborating decisions by bearing in mind not merely national but also the international interests, it was stressed at the 25th party congress. The practice of Soviet-Yugoslav links is varied and extensive. It includes continuous contacts at party, state and social level, in the field of economy and culture. There are good grounds for saying that our cooperation has a stable and planned character. Let us take, for example, the sphere of material production. With the participation of the Soviet Union, in the SFRY, over 100 important projects are being built and reconstructed for the Yugoslav economy--in the power industry, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, in the coal industry, oil processing and other industries. Foreign trade between the two countries is expanding dynamically. In the present 5-year plan period, ending in 1980, this trade will have more than doubled compared with the preceding 5 years. In addition, products manufactured within the framework of the agreement on industrial cooperation are becoming a growing part of this trade. The achieved level of cooperation represents a firm foundation for the preparation for a long-term program of development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and the SFRY. A unanimous view on this was expressed at the meeting of the leaders of the USSR and Yugoslvaia, Leonid Brezhnev and Josip Broz Tito, in the summer of 1977. In recent years they have met on several occasions in Moscow and Belgrade as well as at a series of international forums. The assessment of Soviet-Yugoslav relations in both of our countries stresses the fundamental significance of these meetings at the highest level. They are also significant for the promotion of bilateral links as well as for actions on the foreign policy scene where the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia advocate the consolidation of the process of relaxation and believe that the foremost demand of our times is the halt of the arms race and the taking of real measures in the sphere of disarmament. The positive development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations corresponds to the vital interests of the peoples of the two countries and to the consolidation of general peace. This conviction is stressed in the document which sums up the results of the latest meeting between Leonid Brezhnev and Josip Broz Tito. It is also from this point of view that the news about the forthcoming visit of the Yugoslav leader to the Soviet Union has been received in our country.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PCF CONGRESS, PONOMAREV ACTIVITIES

Opening of Debate

LD112200 Moscow TASS in English 2018 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris, May 11, TASS--The 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party at the Paris suburb at St-Quen opened a general debate on the progress report. The delegates analysed the political and economic situation in France, exchanged experience of party work. Speeches show concern for the country's future, for the interests of the workers and all the people, for strengthening the vanguard role of the communists in the common struggle for democracy, peace and socialism. Peasants in our department of Lot-et-Garonne, said delegate Jean Claude Francois, are waging a stubborn struggle to overcome the consequences of EEC membership. In the last five years incomes in the department have been steadily dropping and an average of two ruined peasant farms are liquidated daily. Every year one thousand youths and girls have to leave their native villages in search of work.

The heroic struggle waged for five months now by the metal workers in Lorraine was described by a delegate from the French Communist Party federation of the department of Meurthe-et-Moselle, Alain Amicabile. Strong criticism was levelled at the activities of supra-national corporations in France, by Guy Perlican, a delegate from a Paris district. The French monopolies, he stressed, are seeking to squeeze the blood out of this major industrial centre of Rance, with its high concentration of scientific research and production, most up-to-date technology and skilled specialists, to expell workers which show revolutionary consciousness and carry on the rich traditions of class struggle. The CPSU delegation attending the 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party today met with the communists of the working-class Paris suburb of Vitry. Representatives of local party organizations gave a warm welcome to the Soviet guests.

Ponomarev at Vitry Meeting

LD111306 Moscow TASS in English 1142 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris, May 11, TASS--The CPSU delegation attending the 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party has today met with the communists of Vitry, a working class suburb of Paris. Head of the delegation Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, secretary of the CPSU CC, spoke on the activity of the CPSU and the Soviet people on the USSR's achievements in the construction of communism, on its efforts directed at strengthening peace and international security. The Soviet guests were warmly welcomed by member of the French Communist Party CC Georges Gosnat, Mayor of Vitry Paul Mersica and representatives of the local party organizations.

Ponomarev on USSR-France Relations

LD121336 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris, May 12, TASS--A mass meeting held in the Pablo Neruda Hall in Bobigny suburg of Paris on Friday evening turned into an exciting demonstration of international solidarity of the communists of various countries. The working people of Bobigny, which is part of the proletarian "Red belt" of Paris, cordially welcomed representatives of a number of fraternal communist and workers' parties attending the 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party.

The foreign guests were warmly greeted by Etienne Fajon, member of the Politbureau and of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party, who stressed that all the fraternal parties are linked by bonds of international solidarity in the struggle against imperialism, for social progress, national independence, for peace, democracy and socialism. We highly value the Soviet Union's outstanding historical and political role, he said. We have not forgotten and will never forget that the Great October Socialist Revolution made the first and decisive breakthrough in the capitalist system of exploitation of man by man.

Head of the CPSU delegation Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, secretary of the CPSU CC, extended fraternal greetings and good wishes from General Secretary of the CPSU CC Leonid Brezhnev to the working people of France.

We heard with interest and attention the report of General Secretary of your party Georges Marchais, Boris Ponomarev said. Soviet communists show a lively interest in the activity of the French Communist Party. And we wish you great successes in the struggle for the vital interests of the people of France, for democracy and socialism.

All the accomplishments of our people have been made on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, in the combination of fidelity to this great teaching with a permanent creative development of its fundamental ideas, the speaker stressed.

The wide mass of the people, Boris Ponomarev went on to note, clearly see that the Soviet Union is consistently pursuing a foreign policy of peace stemming from the very nature of socialism. No other country of the world has put forward such a number of major initiatives directed at ending the race of both conventional and nuclear arms as the Soviet Union. A tireless struggle for detente and lasting peace is waged by General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

In Europe very much depends on the development of relations between our countries, Boris Ponomarev went on to say. The recent Soviet-French summit talks have been a new major step in their development. The programme for a further development of cooperation between the USSR and France signed in Moscow for the benefit of detente and peace is called upon to have a favourable effect on the situation in Europe and international relations as a whole. This and other important documents adopted in the course of the meeting are designed to give a fresh impetus to Soviet-French cooperation.

Soviet and French communists, Boris Ponomarev said in conclusion, are united by the bonds of lasting friendship and solidarity. Our parties are united by their common stand on the fundamental problems of the present. History and contemporaneity, our joint struggle in the past and present have laid a firm basis for further developing and strengthening cooperation between the CPSU and the French Communist Party, for the benefit of the Soviet and French peoples, in the interests of peace and socialism.

Congress Conclusion

LD132057 Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris, May 13, TASS--The 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party closed today in the Paris suburb of St-Quen. It was attended by about 2,000 delegates.

The congress was attended by a delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led by alternate Politbureau member and Secretary of the CPSU CC Boris Ponomarev, and also by envoys of many fraternal communist and workers' parties, of progressive and national-liberation movements.

Congress participants unanimously endorsed the report by the PCF general secretary, Georges Marchais. Congress adopted a political resolution "The Future Begins Today," examining the internal political situation of France and the crisis of its economy, offering ways of resolving the serious problems facing the country, analyzing the international situation and noting the strengthening positions of the socialist countries in the comtemporary world.

Amendments were made in the party's rules.

The congress elected anew the party's leading bodies.

In his concluding speech at the closing session Georges Marchais confirmed the striving of French communists to strengthen solidarity with the armed forces throughout the world for social progress, independence, peace, disarmament, liberty and socialism.

The French Communist Party, Georges Marchais went on, is working for an improvement of the living standards of working people, for expanding democratic rights and freedoms. In order to attain this purpose we come out for the unity of left forces leaning on the cohesion of working people, broad popular masses. Ours is a popular and revolutionary party, standing on guard of the national interests and waging struggle for the emancipation of the working class, for the liberty of France. We know we are facing a strong adversary and that the struggle will be hard. But we also know that truth is on our side and we are confident of victory.

The congress concluded with the singing of the "Internationale" and the national anthem of France "La Marseillaise."

Today the newly elected Central Committee of the French Communist Party held its first plenary session which elected the PCF Politbureau, the Secretariat of the PCF CC and the Central Political Control Commission.

Georges Marchais has been re-elected the general secretary of the PCF.

Ponomarev, Friendship Society Meeting

LD122226 Moscow TASS in English 2032 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris, May 12, TASS--TASS correspondents Yuriy Lopatin and Yevgeniy Korzhev reports: The CPSU delegation attending the 23rd Congress of the French Communist Party met today the leadership of France-USSR Society.

The Soviet guests were cordially welcomed by Acting President of the society Guy Desson. Our meeting, he said, is taking place at a significant moment. The summit talks of leaders of France and the Soviet Union were held recently in Moscow. Most important documents were signed as a result of these talks. This is a historic event that is of great significance for further development of friendly relations between our countries and for strengthening of peace and security in the world.

The head of the CPSU delegation, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev said that people in the Soviet Union are well aware of and highly appreciate the noble activity of France-USSR Society aimed at the development of friendship between the French and the Soviet peoples, at the widening of all-round cooperation between the two countries, at the struggle for consolidation of peace. This activity, he went on, is now gaining new weight and new significance. The forces of evil existing and operating in the West, the forces that refuse to give up the idea of war are speeding up the arms race. They are striving to camouflage their intrigues dangerous for peoples by stirring up anti-Soviet campaigns, above all by spreading fables about Soviet military menace. In these conditions to tell the French people truth about the USSR means to rebuff anti-Soviet allegations, to contribute to detente, to work for peace.

A number of most important documents were signed as a result of the recent talks between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. There is no doubt that their complete implementation will serve the cause of further many-faceted cooperation between the USSR and France and will make a weighty contribution to the deepening to detente in Europe, to the strengthening of world peace.

Activists of France-USSR Society, representatives of the French public, as well as USSR Ambassador in France Stepan Chervonenko were present at the meeting.

Pere Lachaise Cemetery Visit

LD132343 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1719 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Paris, 13 May--The CPSU delegation led by B. N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the Paris cemetery of Pere Lachaise today and laid wreaths at the wall of the communards and at the graves of the outstanding figures in the French and international communist movement--M. Thorez, J. Duclos, M. Cachin and other French Communist Party leaders.

ITALIAN OFFICIAL'S 'PROVOCATIVE INVENTION' ON KGB DENOUNCED

LD111326 Moscow TASS in English 1301 GMT 11 May 79 LD

["Hackneyed Scenario"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 11, TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Thus, a fresh provocative invention has been launched, this time by Italian General Vito Miceli, one of the leaders of the neo-fascist Italian Social Movement Party. Addressing a press conference, he had recourse to the hackneyed invention of "the hand of Moscow" allegedly interfering in Italy's affairs, and declared that the "Soviet KGB" had set up some mysterious "'A' Department," whose aim is allegedly to engineer provocative actions in Western Europe, and which is at present "specializing in financing terrorist activity in Italy." Neither more, nor less?

Quite a dashing invention. But the nonsensical verbiage by the general is for the Italians an old song, a hackneyed scenario.

As the invention of the "intrigues of Moscow" allegedly "supporting extremists" was launched in Rome as far back as one year ago, the only difference being that this slanderous invention was born not in Italy, but was borrowed by the right-wing Italian press from the American NEWSWEEK and U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT magazines. [sentence as received] The latter went so far as to accuse "Soviet secret services" of involvement in the... murder of noted political figure Aldo Moro!

The provocative invention of the NEWSWEEK and U.S. NEWS, which, as observers pointed out, was born not without the CIA's participation, burst like a soap bubble, having hardly appeared. But now a year later, General Miceli is having recourse to the same lies. Considering that Miceli headed for a number of years the Italian SID intelligence service and is closely connected with the other Western special services, there is every ground to believe that this time again the special services have had a hand in this provocative invention.

But how can one explain such a bent of the Italian neofascists and the people backing them for spreading one and the same absurd and in addition long-exposed anti-Soviet "sensation"? The answer to this question is quite simple: Considering that the notorious "'A' Department" was born in General Miceli's fevered mind at the time when Italy is preparing for parliamentary elections. A tense struggle is mounting in that country between the parties, and meanwhile the neofascists and armed terrorist groupings are using all methods in an attempt to build up an atmosphere of fear, undermine the positions of the democratic forces and provoke action against them. The Italians are resolutely protesting against the outrages and provocations of the right-wing reactionary forces and the malicious invention about the mythical "hand of Moscow" has been designed by Miceli for distracting public attention from the actions of the terrorists and reaction and directing its indignation against left-wing circles.

There is nothing new, as we see, in this tactics, but the calculations of Miceli and company to warm their hands on a fresh provocative invention will not bring them any dividends this time again, as lies, even if repeated twice, have short legs!

USSR GROUND FORCES DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO ITALY

LD120336 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1635 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Rome--The visit to Italy by a delegation of the USSR Ground Forces led by Col Gen V. Z. Yakushin, chief of the Main Staff and first deputy commander in chief of USSR Ground Forces, has ended. The delegation visited military establishments and units of the Italian Ground Forces, attended an exercise by Alpine troops, and was received by corps General E. Rambaldi, chief of staff of the Italian Ground Forces. This was a return visit following the visit to the USSR of an Italian military delegation led by corps General N. Chiari, deputy chief of staff of the Italian Ground Forces. Today the Soviet military delegation left for home.

SOVIET-ITALIAN COMMISSION ON ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC TIES MEETS

LD121408 Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Text] Rome, May 12, TASS--The meeting ended here between the president of the Soviet side in the mixed Soviet-Italian Commission on Economic, and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, Deputy Minister of USSR Foreign Trade N. D. Komarov and president of the Italian side in the mixed commission, Deputy Foreign Minister of Italy Angelo Maria Sanza.

In the course of the negotiations with the participation of Italy's Foreign Trade Minister G. Stammati, the participants examined the status and prospects for the development of the economic, and scientific and technological cooperation between the USSR and Italy. The sides noted with satisfaction that 1978 has seen a further expansion in the trade turnover between the USSR and Italy, which amounted to nearly 2 billion roubles, and expressed hope for a further increasein the volume of trade in 1979. Also examined were specific proposals on further expansion of economic, and scientific and technological cooperation for the coming years as well as issues pertaining to the elaboration of a new agreement on the economic cooperation for 1980-1985 and of a new long-term program of deepening the economic, industrial and technological cooperation till 1990. The interest of both sides in a further development of the mutually advantageous economic relations was confirmed duringthe meeting.

Taking part in the talks was Soviet Ambassador to Italy N.S. Ryzhov.

OPPONENTS OF DETENTE SEEKING TO DISTURB MILITARY BALANCE

LD121350 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Viktor Shlenov commentary]

[Text] The ITALIA agency has published an interview with Gen Alexander Haig, supreme commander of the NATO armed forces. The U.S. general again calls for support of NATO plans to deploy in Europe medium-range nuclear weapons, known as Eurostrategic missiles. Our commentator, Viktor Shlenov writes on this subject: Haig's statement only confirms Western press reports on the NATO Nuclear Planning Group's meeting which was held in utter secrecy in Florida on 24-25 April at a U.S. Air Force base. At this meeting, the Pentagon strongly urged its Atlantic partners to station on their territory modified Pershing-II missiles, a new version of tactical nuclear missile of the U.S. Army.

It is to be noted that the efforts to get the Atlantic plans for the escalation of the arms race in Europe accepted are being stepped up the very moment when talks between the USSR and the United States on strategic arms limitation have entered their final stage. Millions of people, including the Europeans, are awaiting with hope the signing of the SALT-II negotiations, which would be followed by SALT-III negotiations. These would cover arms systems which did not figure either at the Vienna talks or the Soviet-U.S. SALT talks.

One has the impression that the opponents of military detente are making an effort to disturb the military balance and to use the Euromissiles as a trump card for the forthcoming SALT-III talks. The propaganda din around the Euromissiles is accompanied by invented lies on the so-called threatening reinforcement of the USSR's tactical nuclear potential in Europe.

In its military policy the USSR has never aimed at supremacy. The Soviet leaders have stated on many occasions that the USSR advocates the gradual reduction of the opposing military forces in Europe on the condition that the equilibrium is respected. In this connection let us recall the statement made by Leonid Brezhnev on 2 March this year. The USSR, he said, has already said on several occasions that it calls for the reduction of missiles with nuclear warheads, or others, of medium range, in Europe, taking into consideration of course the existence of U.S. military bases on this continent.

It is exactly this reduction which can contribute to the success of military detente in Europe.

GROMYKO HOLDS TALKS WITH KING HUSAYN'S SPECIAL ENVOY

LD112204 Moscow TASS in English 2145 GMT 11 May 79 LD

["In an Atmosphere of Understanding"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko received on May 11 a special envoy from King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hasan Ibrahim.

During talks which passed in a friendly atmosphere a detailed exchange of views was held on questions pertaining to the Middle-East situation and the development of co-operation between the USSR and Jordan. Both sides underlined that the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty has led to a new aggravation of the situation in the Middle East and created serious obstacles to the achievement of peace and stability in that area. The Soviet Union and Jordan firmly reject the path of separate deals and believe that it only serves the expansionist designs of Israel and its accomplices.

In these circumstances, cohesion and coordination of actions by all Arab states opposing this anti-Arab policy and coming out for the attainment of a cardinal and just Middle-East settlement based on collective efforts of all the sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine Arab people, assumes particular importance. Satisfaction was expressed over the development of Soviet-Jordanian relations and the great importance attached by the two sides to the contacts between the leadership of the Soviet Union and Jordan on questions of mutual interests was stressed.

On the same day Andrey Gromyko gave a luncheon in honour of Hasan Ibrahim, during which friendly toasts were exchanged.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0001 GMT on 12 May repeats this item, supplying the following additional material:

"Present at today's talks were: Zemskov, USSR deputy foreign minister; Nishanov, USSR ambassador to Jordan; and (Grinevskiy), head of the Near Eastern Countries Department of the USSR Foreign Affairs Ministry, and on the Jordanian side: Hani al-Khasawinah, the Jordanian ambassador to the USSR."

EGYPT-ISRAEL TALKS ON WEST BANK, GAZA STRIP CRITICIZED

LD111830 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Prior to the New Egyptian-Israeli Meeting"]

[Text] News agencies have reported from Cairo that Egyptian President as-Sadat intends to hold a meeting before the end of the month with Israeli representatives to discuss the ill-reputed autonomous rule on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. The agencies have pointed out that a discussion of this question between Egypt and Israel will intensify the wave of anger, especially in the Arab world, more than the separate deal on Sinai did. In any case, the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations will be dealing with the fate of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which belong to neither Israel nor Egypt. No one has given As-Sadat's regime the authority to carry out such tasks.

The bank and the strip are territory of the Palestinians and they alone can decide their fate and future. Those Palestinians living on the bank and in the strip and in other areas equally categorically reject the regime's claim to represent their interests. The inhabitants of the occupied territories by their demonstrations and also the mayors of the towns in these territories have recently specifically declared with complete frankness that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine and that the organization's view is well known. It rejects the ill-reputed self-administration because it is a coverup for the perpetuation of the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory and the denial of the Palestinians' right to establish their own independent state.

Official Cairo is hopelessly trying to portray the matter in a totally different way because its efforts at concealment are being met with Tel Aviv's stance which with relish frankly exposes matters. And so Israel's UN representative has unequivocally explained the information message on the treaty between Egypt and Israel and what in fact the ill-reputed self-administration means. The message says that Israel will not study in any circumstances and will not allow the establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. Who is not aware that the solution of the Middle East question and the establishment of a firm peace in the region is impossible without a just solution for the Palestinian problem, including guaranteeing the right of the Arab people of Palestine to establish their state? A short while ago Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian defense minister, stressed that Egypt will not halt in its progress toward peace.

Cairo's agreement to hold negotiations with Israel in accordance with its conditions on the ill-reputed self-administration on the bank and in the strip is proof that As-Sadat's regime does not wish to halt its progress, however not toward peace but away from peace in the Middle East and away from the vital interests of the Palestinians and all the Arab people.

AFGHANISTAN ISSUES STATEMENT ON CUTTING TIES WITH EGYPT

LD140756 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 14 May 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, May 13, TASS--The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] decided to sever political relations with the As-Sadat regime which concluded a separate deal with Israel contrary to the interests of the Palestine and other Arab peoples. The deal, says a statement published today by the DRA Government, contradicts also the interests of the Egyptian people itself, in whose name As-Sadat illegally took part in the negotiations supporting imperialist policies in the Middle East. The decision to sever political relations, the statement says, is an act of solidarity with all Arab working people, with the progressive and revolutionary people of Palestine. It accords with the purposes of the DRA foreign policy, which is built on the principles of peace, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, of alliance with the international working-class movement, and resolute support for the people's national-liberation movements.

WEST BANK MAYORAL DELEGATION VISITS LENINGRAD SITES

LD140950 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Leningrad, May 13, TASS--"The immortal feat of the Leningraders who withstood a 900-day siege by Nazi troops during the second World War, gives wings to the Palestinian people in its just struggle for a homeland.

"The chronicle of the Soviet people's courage is an inspiring example of selfless service to the fatherland," stated the mayor of the town of Ramallah, Karim Khalaf. He heads a delegation representing the Palestine public of the Israeli occupied West Bank of the Jordan River. The guests were invited to the USSR by the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies and the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Palestine Arab People. Today the delegation visited places of historical interest. After seeing the monument to the heroic defenders of the city in Victory Square, erected on money collected by the people, the mayor said that this magnificent memorial embodies the heroism of a great people which brought liberation from the Nazi yoke to Europe. Flowers were laid at the eternal fire of the moument.

The guests went to the Pulkovo Heights which was the front line during the past war and saw the museums at Pushkin and Pavlovsk--Leningrad suburbs--after which they returned to the city and visited the 18th-century fortress of Peter-and-Paul.

Mayor's Praise For Soviet Policy

ID130510 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1450 GMT 12 May 79 ID

[Text] Leningrad, 12 May--An all-embracing settlement in the Near East is impossible either today or tomorrow without the participation of the Soviet Union, in the opinion of Karim Khalaf, mayor of Ramallah.

He stated in an interview with a TASS correspondent today that the precise and clear position of the Soviet Government, which supports the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab lands and giving to the Palestinian people the right to create their own state, is the "sole correct and constructive path in the solution of this problem." Therefore, he noted, further strengthening of friendly relations with the Soviet Union is in the interests not only of the Palestinian people, but of the whole Arab nation.

Karim Khalaf heads a delegation of representatives of the Palestinian public of the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan River, which is in the USSR at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies and the Soviet Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the Arab People of Palestine.

Dealing with the separate Egyptian-Israeli treaty, Karim Khalaf stressed that its signing was a plot by imperialism, Zionism and its accomplice, Egyptian President as-Sadat, who has completely betrayed the interests of his people and the whole Arab nation.

The increasing isolation of Cairo in the Arab world is the Arab's answer to this treacherous deal, which has created a dangerous threat to the cause of peace in the Near East, said the mayor of Ramallah. The Palestinian people, he noted, consider that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty secures for Israel the Arab territories they occupied and hinders the creation of an independent Palestinian state. "This is a direct infringement of the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolution on the Near East," Karim Khalaf stressed.

The guest went on to state that the Palestinian people are fully resolved to achieve victory in the implementation of the national interests. They look with faith into the future because the progressive forces of the whole world, led by the Soviet Union, are coming out with them and with the other Arab peoples.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE ENDS, ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

LD121403 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 12 May 79 LD

["Positive Results"--TASS headline]

[Text] Rabat, May 12, TASS--Today, the tenth conference of foreign ministers of the Muslim states ends its deliberations in the Moroccan town of Fez. The participants representing over 40 countries of the world discussed ways of strengthening international solidarity in the struggle to eliminate the consequences of the Israeli aggression as well as measures to provide effective assistance to the peoples of South Africa fighting against racism and apartheid, for freedom and national independence.

The conference unanimously condemned the treacherous anti-Arab policy of Egyptian President As-Sadat and his shameful collusion with imperialism and Zionism. The ministers stressed that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East can be established only on the basis of withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and granting to the Arab peoples of Palestine the right to self-determination and creation of their own independent state.

In a special resolution on Jerusalem, the participants demanded that the Western countries with diplomatic missions in that city close them down without delay since recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel runs counter to U.N. decisions.

The conference documents also confirm full support of the Muslim countries for the just struggle of the Palestinian people for their inalienable national rights and stress that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the only legitimate representative of the people. The foreign ministers sharply criticized the systematic plundering by the Israeli aggressors of the natural resources in the occupied Arab lands and demanded compensation of the material damage done to the Arab countries by these Zionist activities.

The conference also decided to hold a meeting of heads of state and government of the Muslim countries in Saudi Arabia next December.

Further Report

LD130902 Moscow TASS in English 0812 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, May 13, TASS--The 10th conference of foreign ministers of Muslim countries has ended in Fez, Morocco. It was attended by representatives of 40 states.

The conference adopted a nunber of documents aimed at strengthening solidarity of the Muslim countries in the struggle for a just solution of the Middle Eastern problem, at giving efficient support to the African peoples fighting against apartheid and racism, for their national independence.

In a special resolution the participants in that representative forum unanimously denounced the traitorous policy of As-Sadat and his disgraceful collusion with Zionism and imperialism. In a separate resolution they expressed solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people for their national rights and called upon all Muslim countries to give all-round financial and other support to the Arab people of Palestine.

COMMENT ATTACKS SUPPORT FOR NEW RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT

Formation of New Parliament

LD120354 Moscow in Shona to Rhodesia 1600 GMT 8 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "The Swearing-In of Members of Parliament in Rhodesia"]

[Text] Further steps are being taken in Rhodesia at present to complete the plans set up by the leaders of London and Washington. These plans must be fulfilled by the government of Salisbury so that this country becomes an effective bridge for the Western oppressors and usurpers. There was a meeting of the so-called Parliament which was set up following the recent sham elections. These elections took place amid unprecedented acts of intimidation. In this Parliament there are 72 black members who are there to work for the interests of the tobacco farmers and for international exploiters; they are working against the cause of the rebels.

Under the new Constitution of Rhodesia, the 28 white members of Parliament will have immense powers since they have the power to veto even vital legislation. The tobacco farmers will continue to control the army, the police, the judiciary and other key government offices. Thus, African participation was necessary to deceive the world and give the impression that here was complete independence. The person designated to lead the new administration, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, together with his foreman Ian Smith, have clearly stated that they have every hope of receiving recognition from the British Government, the United States and other countries friendly to them.

News reports from various countries reveal that Rhodesian commerce and industry leaders have started to visit Britain where they are reestablishing their connections with business institutions in that country. The British Government, as has been revealed, strongly supports these moves. Similar steps are being taken in the United States.

Despite the UN's directive that these elections should not be recognized, the American President described these elections as a step in the right direction. In the U.S. Congress, there is great pressure to recognize Rhodesia. These steps are being taken by arms manufacturers, financial institutions and business circles. These people want to get their hands on the Rhodesian chrome, cobalt and other precious minerals vital to U.S. industries. Despite the UN's economic sanctions against Rhodesia, the United States and other Western countries have increased their trade with Rhodesia, and one of the Republicans in Congress said that there should be immediate trading with the illegal regime in Salisbury. Thus, the oppressors and usurpers are hurrying to set up a regime that will work to promote their interests.

Muzorewa as Western Puppet

LD121932 Moscow in Shona to Rhodesia 1600 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[A. Fedorov commentary: "Financial Support for Muzorewa"]

[Text] The Western press, after knowing the results of the Rhodesian elections, and after realizing that Bishop Abel Muzorewa would be the new leader of Rhodesia's Government, began discussing financial support for the new leader. Now, we bring you a commentary by our news commentator, Aleksandr Fedorov:

Close friendship between Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the racists of Rhodesia, and with the Government of South Africa have become strongly apparent. Of late there have been further revelations of these friendly relations. A recent report released by the Foreign Ministry of Iran in Tehran clearly reveals that Bishop Abel Muzorewa was working in close collaboration with the tobacco farmers of Ian Smith, and in the past received enormous help from the government of the shah of Iran. Also, the shah trained Muzorewa's secret agents under the leaders of the Iranian secret police SAVAK. The shah's government in Iran also supplied funds for the training of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's private armies in other countries. At the present time, the secret agents from SAVAK are still helping to train Muzorewa's private army, now operating among the African peoples. These are the troops responsible for Muzorewa's success in the recent elections.

Further information reveals that Bishop Abel Muzorewa and other members of his family are still receiving money from the snah of Iran. When we look at the whole situation, it becomes clear that Muzorewa's entire role is to cooperate fully with the Boers of South Africa and other countries of the West. It has become clear that the new administration in Rhodesia will be a faithful and reliable partner of the governments of Pretoria, London and Washington. A while ago, Bishop Abel Muzorewa publicly declared that there should be created a southern African cooperative zone in matters of trade and economy, which would be under the leadership of the Government of South Africa. He further said that, to frustrate the aspirations of the people of Zimbabwe, his troops would be dispatched to attack Zambia and Mozambique--exactly the same measures being carried out today by the racist governments of Rhodesia and South Africa. This is the stand of the new leader of Rhodesia.

Condemnation of S. African Support

LD121302 Moscow in Shona to Rhodesia 1600 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Arkadiy Butlitskiy commentary: "Total Support for Rhodesia by South Africa"]

[Text] [Announcer] The government of the Boers in South Africa is preparing to give total support to the administration of the tobacco farmers in Salisbury following the recent sellout elections held in Rhodesia. Our news commentator, Arkadiy Butlitskiy, says this won't help because the elections for a new government in Rhodesia cannot end the serious upheavals in that country:

Support from Pretoria has been responsible for foreman Ian Smith remaining in power despite his illegal administration for many years. But now we must realize that the state of affairs in Rhodesia has entered a different phase, especially following the elections for the so-called new administration. South Africa explains this as a success which should strengthen the hand of the internal groups in their effort to solve the problems of the country. Pretoria is giving the Boers of Rhodesia all the necessary help so that the country can continue to cater to the interests of the white minority. As a means to achieve this, Pretoria wants parliamentary seats in Rhodesia in accordance with the desires of South Africa. People who have been closely following the course of events can clearly remember the statements made by Bishop Muzorewa and his friends Ndabaningi Sithole in the recent past. These men said that after the elections in Rhodesia they would like to strengthen ties with South Africa and work for closer cooperation with the Boers in Pretoria.

In several statements, the leaders of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe have always predicted that South Africa will be among the first countries to recognize the regime of the latest puppets in Rhodesia. Therefore, Pretoria can be in a better position to interfere with the daily running of Rhodesian affairs. Thus, the Boers are making it clear to all and sundry that they won't allow the Salisbury administration to slide into serious trouble.

The Boers have the same plans for Rhodesia and Namibia. They want to use the country as a staging base to launch attacks against the independent states of Africa and to destroy the liberation movements. Military contingents of the racists of South Africa are at present being deployed in all areas of Rhodesia. This also coincides with the arrival of South African military planes in Rhodesia: Helicopters, for example, to demonstrate their might and to intimidate people have recently arrived at Salisbury Airport. This show of strength by South Africa is done with the approval and support of America and Britain and the other Western oppressors who are helping the Boers of Pretoria and the Salisbury tobacco farmers.

Mengistu Support for Patriotic Front

LD131850 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 13, TASS--A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front which leads the liberation struggle of the African population of Rhodesia against the illegal Salisbury regime has been held in Ethiopia's capital. The meeting was attended by both co-leaders of the front--J. Nkomo and R. Mugabe. The Executive Committee has decided to unite the armed forces of both parties, affiliated with the Patriotic Front--the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) and the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU). The armed forces of the front will now have single regulations, the single coordination and defence councils and also the joint military operative command. The Coordination Council will draw up and put into life programs of the Patriotic Front in the political and military spheres. The Defence Council is bound to concentrate efforts on expansion of combat operations of the front. The Joint Military Operative Command will fulfill the directives of the Defence Council.

The Patriotic Front declares once again the unity of the popular masses of Zimbabwe in the struggle against the racist minority and the neocolonialist puppet regime formed as a result of fake elections, and reaffirms the patriots' determination to bring the armed struggle for the real liberation of Zimbabwe till a victorious end, says the Executive Committee's [statement] which has been distributed here.

The formation of the single Coordination Council and the Joint Military Operative Command of the front signifies the decisive stage in the struggle of the Zimbabwe people against the regime of the white racists and their African puppets which were knocked together on the instruction of international imperialism. This has been stated by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia at a meeting with J. Nkomo and R. Mugabe. Mengistu Haile Mariam assured once again the leaders of the Patriotic Front that socialist Ethiopia would continue giving the patriots all-round assistance and support in their just struggle for freedom and independence of the motherland.

GROMYKO, PONOMAREV HOLD TALKS WITH CONGOLESE DELEGATION

LD111437 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 79 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "On the Visit to the USSR by a Party and Government Delegation From the People's Republic of the Congo"]

[Text] A party and government delegation from the People's Republic of the Congo, headed by P. Nze, member of the Congolese Labor Party [PCT] Central Committee Politburo, chief of the PCT Central Committee International Department and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, was in the Soviet Union from 3 - 7 May.

P. Nze and the members of the Congolese party and government delegation talked with A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The following participated in the conversation from the Soviet side: R.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and L.F. Ilichev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; and from the Congolese side: J-P. Nonault, Congolese ambassador to the Soviet Union, and (A. Ken), general secretary of the Congolese Ministry of Finance.

P. Nze conveyed a personal message from D. Sassou-N'guesso, chairman of the PCT Central Committee and president of the Peoples Republic of the Congo, to L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The Congolese delegation was also received by I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

During the meetings and conversations, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, there was an exchange of views on matters relating to the development of Soviet-Congolese relations and on a number of international and general African problems of mutual interest.

The Congolese party and government delegation talked about the results of the PCT Third Extraordinary Congress in March and about the progress of the implementation of its decisions. The Congolese representatives expressed gratitude to the Soviet people and the leaders of the CPSU and Soviet Government for the Soviet Union's assistance in strengthening the republic's political and economic independence and building a new society.

The Soviet Union's and the Congo's common stances on many important international problems were confirmed. There was an exchange of views on matters relating to the African peoples' struggle to liquidate the remnants of colonialism and racism. The sides resolutely condemned imperialist and racist intrigues in southern Africa aimed at putting off the final collapse of colonialism and racism, creating puppet regimes in Zimbabwe and Namibia and preventing genuine representatives of the people from coming to power in these countries.

The sides noted with satisfaction that the friendly relations between the USSR and the Congo are developing successfully in all spheres on the basis of the principles of full equality, respect for sovereignty and noninterference in one another's internal affairs. They expressed mutual interest in further broadening Soviet-Congolese economic, scientific and technical, trade, cultural and other forms of cooperation.

Both sides welcomed the development and strengthening of ties between the CPSU and PCT based on their joint adherence to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, proletarian internationalism and the ideals of peace, freedom and socialism. They advocated the further deepening of relations between the CPSU and PCT.

The Soviet and Congolese sides expressed confidence that the conversations and meetings during the Congolese party and government delegation's visit to the USSR will serve the cause of the fruitful development of friendly relations between the countries and peoples of the Soviet Union and the Congo.

On 7 May the delegation left Moscow.

It was seen off at the airport by V.F. Maltsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR first deputy minister of foreign affairs; L.F. Ilich, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, and R.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department.

The farewell party included J-P. Nonault, Congolese ambassador to the USSR.

ANGOLA, ZAMBIA STRENGTHEN MILITARY COOPERATION

LD111056 Moscow TASS in English 0937 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, May 11, TASS--Questions of strengthening the unity of independent African states in face of ceaseless armed provocations of the South African racialist regimes was in the spotlight of the negotiations held in the Zambian town of Ndola between the president of the Zambian Republic Kenneth Kaunda and the president of the People's Republic of Angola Agostinho Neto. The leaders of the two African states have decided to strengthen bilateral military cooperation. A racialist attack on one of these states will henceforth be regarded as an attack on both of them. The sides discussed also the possibility of expanding the economic relations between Zambia and Angola.

ANGOLAN COUNCIL APPROVES STATE CONTROL OF MINING

LD111356 Moscow TASS in English 1212 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Luanda, May 11, TASS--The Revolutionary Council of the People's Republic of Angola has approved the law on establishing state control over the operation of the mining industry. The law [words indistinct] state property of all the country's mineral resources and gives the state the exclusive right to extract minerals and do prospecting and mapping work in this connection. At the same time, the law allows the participation of foreign companies in working mineral resources on condition of their strict observance of the Angolan laws and respect for the country's national interests.

NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD131328 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 13, TASS--A governmental delegation of Nigeria arrived in Moscow today. It is headed by member of the Supreme Military Council of Nigeria, Chief of Staff of the Supreme Command Major-General Shehu Musa Yar'adua.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW MEETING ON OLYMPIC GAMES

LD112000 Moscow TASS in English 1603 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 11, TASS--A plenary meeting of the Moscow City CPSU Committee today discussed the tasks of preparing for and holding the 1980 summer Olympic games. It was stressed that the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and Leonid Brezhnev are showing much concern for Moscow's timely preparation for the Olympic games. The huge programme of preparations is being organically combined with the implementation of tasks for further improving the working and living conditions of Muscovites, the conditions of their rest and recreation, and turning Moscow into a model communist city. More than 70 sports installations, administrative buildings and enterprises are being built or reconstructed for the coming Olympics. Some of them have already been completed. The construction of the Olympic village and hotels is proceeding successfully. Much has been done in the aspect of city improvement. The plenary meeting was addressed by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Moscow City CPSU Committee Viktor Grishin.

BREZHNEV PRESENTS AWARDS IN 8 MAY KREMLIN CEREMONY

LD111619 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 79 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Text] TASS--Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today in the Kremlin presented eminent awards of the homeland to prominent military leaders, party and soviet workers. Presenting the awards, Comrade Brezhnev said: [read by announcer]

Dear comrades: I have a pleasant duty to perform--presenting eminent awards of the homeland and military decorations to a group of prominent military leaders of our armed forces and workers in the party and state apparatus.

For services to the USSR Armed Forces, and in connection with his 60th birthday, the Order of Lenin is awarded to Army General Gribkov, Anatoliy Ivanovich. As is known, he carries out a great deal of work in his position as chief of staff of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

The services of three more eminent military leaders--Army General Mayorov, Aleksandr Mikhaylovich; Col Gen Vishenkov, Vladimir Mikhaylovich; and Melekhin, Aleksey Dmitriyevich--have also been marked with the Order of Lenin. They have been presented with these awards for their achievements in military and political training, in maintaining the high combat readiness of troops, and in mastering complex military equipment.

Accept my sincere congratulations, comrades, and war with honor the order with the portrait of the great Lenin. I wish you good health and new successes.

For great and fruitful work in the CPSU Central Committee apparatus and in connection with his 60th birthday, the Order of Lenin is also awarded to Tsukanov, Georgiy Emanuelovich, executive workers of the CPSU Central Committee apparatus. I know Comrade Tsukanov well through our joint work in various spheres for over 40 years. I know he is utterly devoted to the party cause and an energetic and skillful worker. Therefore, I am particularly pleased to present an award today to you, Georgiy Emanuelovich. Accept my congratulations and my best wishes.

By decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, for successes achieved in constructing the third section and reaching planned capacity in the Orenburg gas complex, the Order of the October Revolution is awarded to Brezhnev, Yuriy Leonidovich, deputy USSR minister of foreign trade. Please accept this award and I heartily congratulate you.

In conclusion, comrades, I present with a feeling of great satisfaction diplomas and marshal's stars of the categories of troops to new army generals: Akhromeyev, Sergey Fedorovich; Kozlov, Mikhail Mikhaylovich; and Tsinev, Georgiy Karpovich. This high military rank has been awarded by decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to comrades whose active and fruitful work in leading posts of the country's armed forces, in training our top command cadres, and in insuring the state security of the socialist homeland is well known. I congratulate you, dear comrades, and wish you good health and new, great successes in your responsible work.

The recipients of the awards expressed their warm gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet Government and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally, for the high assessment of their work. They assured that they would continue to devote all their knowledge and experience to strengthening our homeland's might and to the cause of building a communist society.

Present at the award ceremony were Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and other officials.

SOVIET MUSLIM OFFICIALS MEET IN MOSCOW, ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

LD111948 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 11, TASS--A meeting of leaders of Moslem organizations, held in Moscow on May 10-11, marked the beginning of preparations by Soviet Moslems for the celebration of the 1,400th anniversary of Islam. Taking part in the meeting were chairmen of the four Moslem ecclesiastical boards of the USSR, their deputies kadhis and imams of many major mosques. The communique issued by the meeting notes that this lofty assembly "discussed in the spirit of Islamic fraternity and cooperation the tasks of Soviet Moslems in connection with the approaching fifteenth century of the Hegira, mapped out functions devoted to this event".

The meeting participants passed a decision to hold an Islamic symposium on the "contribution of the Moslems of Central Asia, the Volga area and the Caucasus to the development of Islamic thought, to the cause of peace and social progress." It is to be held in the month of Shavval 1399 according to the Moslem calendar (September 1979) in Dushanbe, Central Asia. An Islamic conference will be held in Tashkent in the month of Shavval 1400 (September 1980). It will be devoted to the subject: "The 15th century of the Hegira must become the century of peace and international friendship."

Mufti Ziyautdin-Khan ibn Ishan Babakhanov has been elected chairman of the preparatory committee for the forthcoming symposium and conference. It has been decided to invite prominent Moslem leaders from different countries to this conference.

A permanent exhibition "Islam in the USSR" will be organized for the momentous date at the expense of the Moslem ecclesiastical boards. A book will be put out about the life of Moslems in the Soviet Union. It is planned to coin an anniversary medal "15th century of the Hegira."

Gramophone records with quotations from the Koran will be put out. The magazine MOSLEMS OF THE SOVIET EAST will devote three special issues to the jubilee. The meeting participants, the communique says, have "adopted a statement in which, proceeding from the principles of Islam, they put forth their attitude to the most vital problems of contemporaneity, and also urge the Moslems of the planet to multiply their efforts in the struggle for universal peace and social progress."

CASTRO, CARTER GREETINGS TO BREZHNEV ON REELECTION

LD111039 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Greetings Telegram to L.I. Brezhnev"]

[Excerpt] L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is receiving telegrams from world party and state figures in connection with his reelection as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers, writes:

"Please accept our most sincere congratulations in connection with your reelection as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. We wish you great new successes in the leadership of the Soviet state and in the struggle to build communism and safeguard international peace."

The telegram from U.S. President J. Carter says:

"Esteemed Mr President, please accept my congratulations on your reelection as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium."

NOVOYE VREMYA JOURNALIST KASHOYAN'S DEATH ANNOUNCED

LD091601 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 79 Morning Edition p 6 LD

[Unattributed announcement]

[Text] The Frunzenskiy Raykom and the editorial collegium, party bureau and local committee of the editorial office of the journal NOVOYE VREMYA regret to announce the sudden death, on 4 May 1979, of German Antonovich Kahoyan, prominent Soviet journalist and deputy chief editory of NOVOYE VREMYA, and offer deep condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.

CPSU CC PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL WORK DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL DIES

LD110801 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 1979 carries on page 6 an obituary of Boris Nikolayevich Moralev, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, who died on 6 May 1979 after a serious illness." He was born in Arkhangelsk in 1917, the obituary states. The obituary goes on to say that "in 1951 B.N. Moralev was promoted to the party Central Committee apparatus where he worked as an instructor in the Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs Department. In 1961 he was elected secretary of the Turkmenistan CP Central Committee. He spent his last 13 years as deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department." The obituary is signed by "a group of comrades."

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 10-13 MAY

LD140634/LD140644 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0700 GMT on 10 May reports that the mass sowing of corn has begun in Kurskaya Oblast where it is planned to sow 160,000 hectares of the crop. The work is to be completed in 1 week and green bulk yields of 250 quintals per hectare are planned.

At 0830 GMT the radio reports that farmers in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast are planning to achieve grain-crop yields averaging 19 quintals per hectare. Farmers are now planting the crop and are working two shifts per day.

According to the radio at 1000 GMT the harvesting of winter barley will begin soon on almost 2 million hectares in Krasnodarskiy Kray. Specialists believe that grain crops are developing well in the kray. The kray plans to sell 4.36 million tons of grain crops to the state; of this total 3 million tons will be durum and rich varieties of wheat.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that all 685 sowing units are working in Ryazanskaya Oblast as early grain crops, wheat, barley and other crops are being sown. Farmers are paying particular attention to wheat, and this year wheat will be sown on 130,000 hectares of the best soil. The entire area will be sown with only one strain, the new Moskovskaya-35--a strain especially created for the Non-Chernozem Zone of the RSFSR. This new strain produces a good yield, 5 to 7 quintals more per hectare than other strains previously grown there. In Belorussia, many farms have pledged to produce 300 quintals of potatoes per hectare this year. Potatoes will be grown on over 800,000 hectares in Belorussia this year.

Moscow radio at 1200 GMT reports that the sowing of cotton has been completed in Tadzhikistan where over 300,000 hectares have been sown of this crop. Bad weather this spring is creating many difficulties for the growers. In Orlovskaya Oblast the mass planting of potatoes has begun.

Moscow Domestic Service at 0000 GMT on 11 May reports that the sowing of grain crops is being carried out at a fast rate in Buryatskaya ASSR where over 1,000 sowing units are working. In only the past few days machine operators have sown wheat on an area of about 100,000 hectares. The seeds are being placed into well-fertilized and watered soil.

At 0100 GMT the radio reports that equipment is being checked for the sowing of spring wheat on many farms in the Kazakh virgin lands. For 10 days, starting 15 May, spring wheat will be sown on over 40 million hectares in the eastern regions of the country and the virgin land sovkhozes are in a high state of readiness. The radio adds: "Farmers of Pavlodarskaya Oblast have in recent years been famed for high yields of buckwheat. However, as we were informed at the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, many farms of the oblast intend, without justification, to reduce the sowing of this precious crop this year. Such facts have also been discovered in other oblasts." In Kirgizia, cotton sowing has been completed.

According to the radio at 0500 GMT the mass sowing of wheat has begun on main agricultural rayons of Irkutskaya Oblast. At the same time farms have started sowing fodder crops and planting early potatoes and vegetables. These crops will occupy more than 1.5 million hectares. The radio notes that the 3 millionth hectare is being sown in Belorussia where primary attention is focused on the beet and potato fields. In Brestskaya, Gomelskaya and Grodnenskaya oblasts sowing work has been carried out on half the areas. The completion of spring crop sowing has begun in the southern rayons of the republic.

At 0700 GMT the radio reports that sowing is now in progress in all the oblasts of Kazakhstan.

Most grain crops, cotton and sugar beet have been sown and work is now underway with regard to rice and corn. In the northern oblasts, perennial grasses are being sown and the selective sowing of barley and wheat is underway. A total of almost 30 million hectares is to be sown this spring in the republic.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that the last hectares of flax are being sown in Smolenskaya Oblast where the crop covers over 100,000 hectares, or one sixth of all the flax sown in the RSFSR.

At 1400 GMT the radio notes that the sowing of summer crops has begun in Mariyskaya ASSR.

The radio reports at 1430 GMT that the long-awaited warm weather has finally arrived. In the RSFSR, spring crops have been sown on 20 percent of the arable land. Sowing has spread to the Volga and the Urals but much work has yet to be done in Siberia where spring arrived late. Sowing has begun in all oblasts in Kazakhstan. Cotton and sugar beet sowing has already been done in the southern regions of the republic while in the north equipment has been brought in to the spring wheat and barley fields.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that spring sowing is in full swing in Lithuania where grain crops occupy over 1 million hectares. The weather has not been kind to the farmers there and plans and deadlines which were drawn up earlier have had to be reviewed.

According to the radio at 2300 GMT vigorous shoots have begun to turn in the southern part of the country and winter crops are starting to grow. The frontranking kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the southern areas of Tyumenskaya Oblast have harrowed the fields in a short time. Altogether, farmers in the oblast are to sow spring crops, potatoes and vegetables on over 1 million hectares this year. Omskaya Oblast has started sowing its main food crop, wheat. This year the farms have considerably expanded the areas under new locally selected varieties with higher yields. Some, such as Sibiriyachka-4, Omskaya-9 and others will cover almost 1 million hectares, an area double that of last year's. According to calculations, all this will yield an extra 200,000 to 250,000 tons of grain crop in the oblast. At the same time, the radio also notes that farmers in Altayskiy Kray are planning to sow two-thirds of the arable land to grain crops and they have planned to obtain no less than 8 million tons of grain annually during the 10th 5-Year Plan. Without losing any time the Altayskiy Kray machine operators harrowed the fields in literally hours and then started sowing early grain crops and preparing the soil for spring wheat. The radio also reports that in Alma-Atinskaya, Dzhambulskaya, Taldy-Kurganskaya and Chimkentskaya oblasts the sowing of spring grain crops, sugar beet and vegetables has already been completed. Winter crops cover 1.7 million hectares and the situation of these crops is reported to be favorable for the most part.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0000 GMT on 12 May reports that sowing units have gone out into the fields of Altayskiy Kray where the machine operators have started the mass sowing of sugar beet.

At 0100 GMT the radio reports that the sowing of rice from aircraft has begun in Kazakhstan. Over 120,000 hectares have been assigned to rice in the republic this year.

According to the radio at 0200 GMT corn has been sown on over 2.5 million hectares in the country as the crop this year is being planted on a larger area than previously. Corn is currently being sown on fields in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, the Don region, Povolzhye and the oblasts in the Central-Chernozem Zone.

In Belgorodskaya Oblast, farmers are placing great hopes in corn for increasing the gross grain harvest: 70,000 hectares have been allocated to corn and it is planned to obtain 40 quintals of yield from each hectare.

At the same time, the radio also reports that the sowing of late crops--corn and sunflower--has been completed in Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast. The sowing had started considerably later than normal because of bad weather. In Bryanskaya Oblast all conditions are ready for potato cultivation. In 1979 there is a pledge to grow 160 quintals of potatoes on each of the 117,000 hectares and to deliver no less than 740,000 tons to the procurement centers.

At 0205 GMT the radio reports that early grain crops have been sown in 100 hours by the farms of Tambovskaya Oblast. Wheat, barley, oats and peas cover almost 1 million hectares.

According to the radio at 0830 GMT the sowing of early spring crops has been completed in Kaliningradskaya Oblast. In southern parts of Tadzhikistan, at the end of April, cotton plants over large areas were damaged by torrential rains and hail. As a result, it has been necessary to carry out a repeat sowing. Cotton now occupies about 300,000 hectares in the republic.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that the planting of potatoes and vegetables and the sowing of buckwheat and millet is being completed in Lipetskaya Oblast. In Mordovskaya ASSR the planting of potatoes has begun; 35,000 hectares are to be planted.

Moscow radio reports at 1200 GMT that the sowing of spring crops is coming to an end in Volgogradskaya Oblast where all farm teams are working on a two-shift basis. This year 3 million hectares are to be sown with wheat, barley, oats and peas. Meanwhile, sowing has begun in the southern areas of Krasnoyarskiy Kray and efforts are being made to do it as quickly as possible in view of the late spring. K-700 tractors are primarily being used to operate various kinds of equipment, and rates of work of 100 hectares per machine operator per day are being achieved. In Amurskaya Oblast more than 3,000 volunteers are helping with the sowing. Many of them have been trained in how to operate machines and field work will be able to proceed around the clock. Despite unpredictable weather conditions, sowing is gathering pace in the area between the Bureya and Zeya rivers.

According to the radio at 1400 GMT the sowing of buckwheat and millet is well underway in Kurskaya Oblast where it will cover 100,000 hectares.

At 1750 GMT the radio reports that land cultivators in Kazakhstan are sowing summer crops on the 5 millionth hectare. Agricultural machine operators are working in extraordinary complicated situations: Rain is frequent and there are heavy squalls. Due to the changeable weather, the sowing timetable has not been adhered to and it is now necessary to catch up with the delays. Farms have worked out new schedules and the Ipatovskiy method is widely used. Mass sowing will soon start in Kazakhstan's virgin oblasts and almost 250,000 tractors and a large quantity of other machinery have been readied for this work.

The radio reports at 1900 GMT that farmers have completed the sowing of early grain crops in Orlovskaya Oblast. Farmers in Tambovskaya Oblast have finished the sowing of early grain crops. They have sown wheat, barley, oats and peas on nearly 1 million hectares and they are bringing out machines for sowing potatoes and other crops.

On 13 May, Moscow radio reports at 0100 GMT that in Tuvinskaya ASSR a quarter of the area has already been sown to crops.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports that mass potato planting has begun in Gorkovskaya Oblast where the total potato planting area is over 100,000 hectares. The radio also reports that mass rice sowing has started later than usual in Astrakhanskaya Oblast. In the lower reaches of the Volga, the temperature of the water needed for flooding the plots has now reached the right level and work is proceeding apace in several rayons there. The oblast this year has pledged to sell 122,000 tons of rice to the state.

At 0700 GMT the radio reports that sunflower is being sown in Altayskiy Kray. In most parts of the kray, the main crop, spring wheat, is about to be sown. This year it will occupy more than 3.5 million hectares.

At 0900 GMT the radio reports that grain crops are to occupy over 4.5 million hectares in Orenburgskaya Oblast. Sowing machinery has been brought out onto the fields in the southern rayons. Meanwhile, oblast grain growers have pledges to sell no less than 3.8 million tons of grain crops to the state.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that sowing is underway in the Ukraine, the Volga Region, Non-Chernozem Zone and the Don region. The harvesting of winter grain has begun in Surkhandarinskaya Oblast, where the average yield after threshing is 40 quintals per hectare.

SPRING-SOWN AREA IN UKRAINE ESTIMATED AT 17.6 MILLION HECTARES

AU111303 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 10 May 79 AU

[Summary] "Following the long cold and rainy period, sunny and warm weather has set in in most parts of the Ukraine. There are several operations that are urgent in the spring fields. According to preliminary data, by 10 May the spring crop area had exceeded 17.64 million hectares. The corn accounts for close to 3.5 million hectares, including 1.5 million hectares sown with corn for grain. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz machine operators everywhere have set about row crop tending."

Kharkovskaya Oblast farms completed potato planting on 10 May. The oblast's area under potatoes exceeds 13,000 hectares.

CSA REPORTS ON SOWING IN FIRST WEEK OF MAY

LD122136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0905 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by 7 May grain and pulse crops, including corn, had been sown on one-quarter of the allotted area. In the first week of May there was a considerable increase in sowing rates. During the week almost 9.3 million hectares were sown to spring grain crops, excluding corn. This is half as much again as in the previous week. Sowing of early grain crops has been mainly completed by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Moldavia, the Ukraine, the Central-Chernozem Zone excluding Tambovskaya Oblast and the lower Volga.

PROGRESS-6 AUTOMATIC TRANSPORT SHIP LAUNCHED 13 MAY

LD130826 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 13 May 79 LD

[Text] Progress-6 is in flight, TASS reports: At 0717 this morning the automatic cargo transport vessel Progress-6 was launched. The aim of the launching is to deliver fuel for the propulsion unit to the Salyut-6 station, to deliver cargo, and to continue checking out parts in the design of the onboard systems and equipment of the automatic cargo vessel. The transport vessel Progress-6 has been launched into an orbit with the following parameters: perigee--268 kms; apogee-- 193 kms; period of revolution--88.8 minutes; inclination--51.6 degrees. According to telemetric data the onboard systems of the Progress-6 vessel are functioning normally.

MEDICAL CHECKS SHOW SALYUT CREW IN GOOD HEALTH

LD111154 Moscow TASS in English 1104 GMT 11 May 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 11, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre: Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin continue their orbital flight.

Yesterday the crew has the day of medical checks. The comprehensive study of the cardiac-vascular system was made to obtain the data on specific features of redistribution of blood in the organism and on the state of the cardiac activity. The effects of measured loads on the blood circulation of the cosmonauts during physical exercises on the veloergometer were also studied.

Two technical experiments were made on May 9 and 10 on the unit Kristall to obtain in the weightlessness conditions semi-conductor materials cadmium sulphide and indium arsenide. Today the crew of the complex is conducting an experiment to study the process of thermo-regulation in man in the conditions of orbital flight. The cosmonauts also work with the onboard technical documentation, do physical exercises on the veloergometer and trainer.

According to the results of the medical checks, Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin are in good health. The commander has the pulse rate of 65 beats per minute and the flight engineer has the pulse rate of 62 beats per minute. Their arterial pressure is respectively 130 by 65 and 130 by 70 millimetres of the mercury column.

The onboard systems and scientific equipment of the orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 are functioning normally.

BRIEFS

SOVIET BROADCASTING DEVELOPMENTS--Television broadcasting today reaches over 80 percent of the USSR, while radio broadcasting reaches practically all of the country's towns and villages. Satellite systems such as Orbita and Raduga are used for television broadcasting. The Ekran satellite, which is more powerful and reliable, is now being tested experimentally. Its signals can be received by comparatively simple and cheaper receiving devices. Experts consider that Ekran-type satellites are the most advantageous and rapid way of providing television broadcasts to large areas. The USSR population has almost 80 million radio receivers and over 70 million television sets, and 90 percent of Central Television programs are now shown in color. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 7 May 79 LD]

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER SHABANOV HAILS VICTORY DAY

LD111555 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 20 Signed to Press 7 May 79 p 6 LD

[Article by Col Gen Eng V.M. Shabanov, USSR deputy defense minister under rubric "9 May Is a Nationwide Holiday": "The People's Great Victory"]

[Excerpts] Victory Day! Our country is celebrating the great holiday for all progressive mankind in the year of the 50th jubilee of the Soviet 5-year plans and the start of mass socialist competition. The victory over Hitler's Germany was the result of the very great feat accomplished by the Soviet people during the years of building and defending the socialist society. In the three, uncompleted, prewar 5-year plans, the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 50th Anniversary of the First 5-Year Plan for the Development of the USSR National Economy" states, our people accomplished the feat of industrializing the country and collectivizing its agriculture, and insured its defense capability, laying a firm material and technical basis for our victory in the Great Patriotic War.

The Soviet Union's victory in the Great Patriotic War was supremely natural. It was not the result of any chance circumstances but has deep social roots. The source of the Soviet Union's power was the socialist economy, the social, political and ideological unity of society, the people's cohesion around the party of the communists, the Soviet servicemen's unrivalled patriotism, and the Soviet patriotism and friendship of the USSR people.

During the war the fundamental features of the Red Army as an army of a new type, linked with the people by the closest ties and educated by the Communist Party in a spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism, were revealed in all their magnitude.

These remarkable qualities were graphically expressed in the servicemen's mass heroism and the patriotic movement of the rear services workers. For their feats at the front more than 11,000 fighters, commanders and political workers were awarded the supreme combat distinction--the title of Hero of the Soviet Union--and 7 million people were awarded orders and medals. Soviet partisans and members of the underground fought the enemy with unrivalled courage while millions of working people brought Victory Day closer by their selfless labor in the rear.

The Soviet and other peoples made countless sacrifices in the war unleashed by fascism. That is why our Leninist party, the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo headed by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, are struggling so persistently, unswervingly and purposefully for peace. The lessons of World War II, L.I. Brezhnev points out in his book "Standing Guard Over Peace and Socialism," teach the peoples above all vigilance with respect to imperialism's aggressive intrigues. Not to appease the aggressors but to expose and thwart their plans, to repel their dangerous actions and strengthen the ranks of the anti-imperialist forces--these are the important tasks in the struggle to preserve and strengthen peace.

Great significance in the struggle for peace attaches to the consolidation of our motherland's defense might and to raising the combat might of the Soviet Army and Navy.

With regard to the present-day international situation our party, creatively assessing the trends and correlations of social forces in the world and considering the aggressive nature of imperialism, guides the building and improvement of the country's armed forces.

The further rapprochement of classes and social groups, inherent in the society of developed socialism, and the assertion of communist ideology, proletarian internationalism and and socialist patriotism among the masses directly influence the consolidation of the country's defense capability. On the basis of the natural laws of social development, the party is strengthening and expanding the unity of the army and people by every means. Our armed forces are staffed by the flower of our youth, the best cadres who have a high ideological and political standard as well as intellectual and physical development.

The consolidation of our motherland's defense might is impossible without the further growth of the Soviet state's economic might and the development of science and technology. The inspired and highly effective labor of workers, kolkhoz members, engineers and scientists and their creative quest and concern for technical progress guarantee that the armed forces will be fully provided with everything necessary for the fulfillment of the tasks set them.

The size of defense expenditures in our country is always determined by the world situation and the reaction's aggressive preparations. "We spend on defense as much as is absolutely necessary," L.I. Brezhnev stresses. "Neither more nor less, in accordance with the situation."

Fundamental changes in the military equipping of the army and navy, which took place as a result of the high development of science and technology in our country, have conditioned the emergence of new methods of combat operations and warfare requiring a high degree of skill from the servicemen, and tactical and operational maturity on the part of the commanders as well as the consolidation of organization and discipline.

The most important criterion which the party uses in assessing the activity of the military cadres and entire personnel is the troops' combat readiness. It focuses the tremendous efforts and material expenditures on the army's equipping, the awareness, combat skill and discipline of all servicemen, and the skill of the command staff in directing the troops. It is ultimately this, L.I. Brezhnev stressed, which is the crown of the troops' combat skill in peacetime and the key to victory in war.

The soldiers, sailors, commanders, engineers, technicians and political workers and entire personnel of the USSR Armed Forces, welcoming L.I. Brezhnev's instruction and recommendations as a guideline in the consolidation of combat might, are tirelessly and daily improving their skill and mastering the heights of military knowledge and the art of vanquishing the enemy.

The USSR Armed Forces are not only a good school of military skill but an excellent school for ideological and physical tempering and discipline and organization. In the army young people are tempered politically and ideologically. During their military service the best qualities of a man, serviceman and citizen as well as patriotism, responsibility to the motherland for allotted tasks, industry, honesty, willpower and psychological temper are formed and strengthened in them. Servicemen with these qualities are reliable guards of the Soviet people's peaceful labor.

The victory holiday is a special holiday. We have no family that does not have a member who has served or is serving in the army or navy or in which there has not been a gray soldier's greatcoat--the embodiment of defense, courage and victory. And all those who traveled the fiery roads of war or labored in the rear for victory relive on this day the spiritual upsurge that gripped everyone in May of the unforgettable year of 1945--on Victory Day. Gray-haired veterans and young men who have just embarked on life turn again and again to the events of the past war and seek to assess the significance of our victory more deeply and fully.

The society of developed socialism built in our country--the greatest achievement of the Soviet people--is an imposing monument to the selfless heroes who defended our socialist fatherland during the grim struggle against fascism.

Addressing the servicemen, L.I. Brezhnev said: "You are standing guard over Soviet people's peaceful labor. The Soviet Union has never armed itself for the sake of arming, has never been and will never be the initiator of an arms race. Our successes in the military sphere are successes aimed at defending and protecting ourselves and our socialist friends against potential aggression, from wherever it may come."

Soviet servicemen, filled with a high sense of responsibility for the destiny of their fatherland and the fulfillment of their international duty, in a single formation with the armies of the Warsaw Pact countries, are reliably safeguarding the working people's socialist gains.

BREZHNEV GREETS 18TH ARMY VETERANS MEETING IN MOSCOW

LD122238 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 12 May 79 LD

[Summary] A meeting of 18th Army veterans is now taking place in Moscow at the Central House of the Soviet Army.

"With warm and prolonged applause the veterans received the greetings from their combat comrade in the 18th Army, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. Together with the army soldiers and officers he participated in the entire Great Patriotic War, from the first to the last day.

"In his greetings Leonid Ilich expressed his cordial gratitude to the veterans for their enormous contribution to the victory over fascism, to the Great Patriotic War and for their selfless toil during the peaceful years.

"Leonid Ilich wished the war veterans good health, long life and success in educating the next generation, which faithfully carries on the cause of their fathers and grandfathers.

"The meeting is proceeding in a cordial atmosphere. Veterans are sharing reminiscences about the unforgettable and feverish years at the front and telling each other about their life today and their peaceful concerns."